Witchcraft Works 1

Ryu Mizunagi

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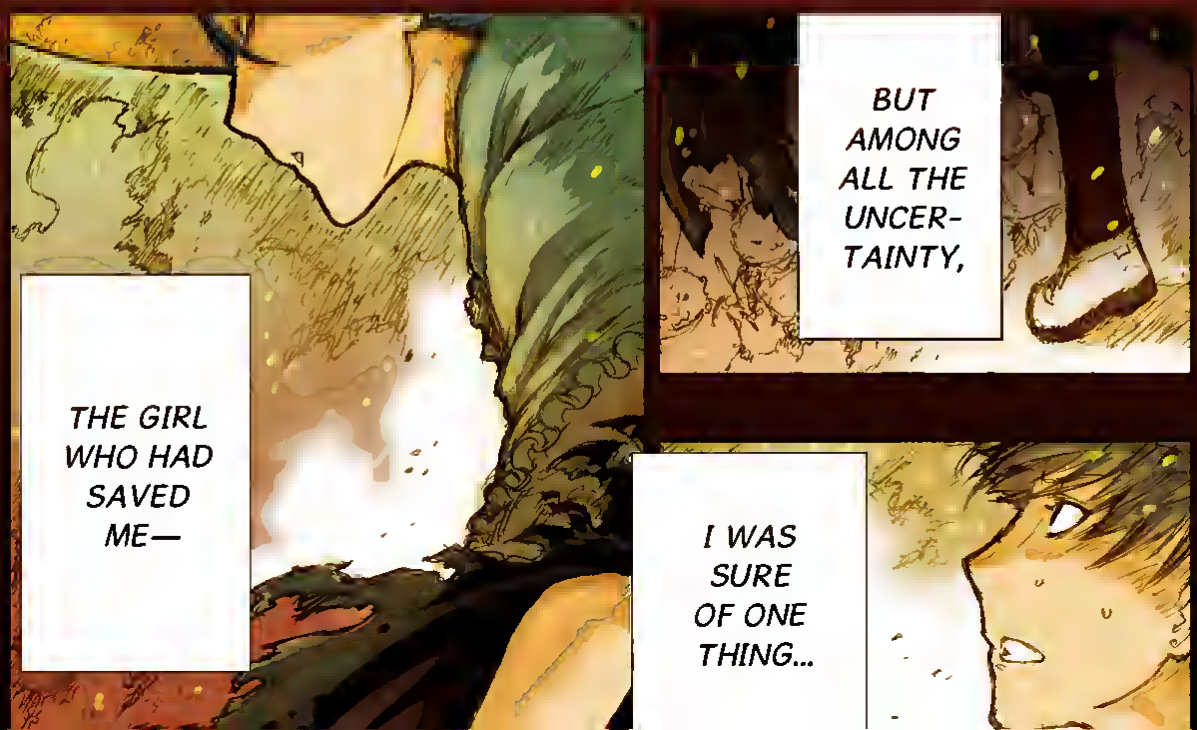
VERTICAL COMICS

I DON'T KNOW HOW ANY OF THIS HAPPENED.

I WAS SUDDENLY ATTACKED.
AND JUST AS SUDDENLY, I WAS SAVED.


BUT AMONG ALL THE UNCER-TAINTY,
THE GIRL WHO HAD SAVED ME—
I WAS SURE OF ONE THING...

CHAPTER 1 Takamiya and the Fire Witch
Witchcraft Works
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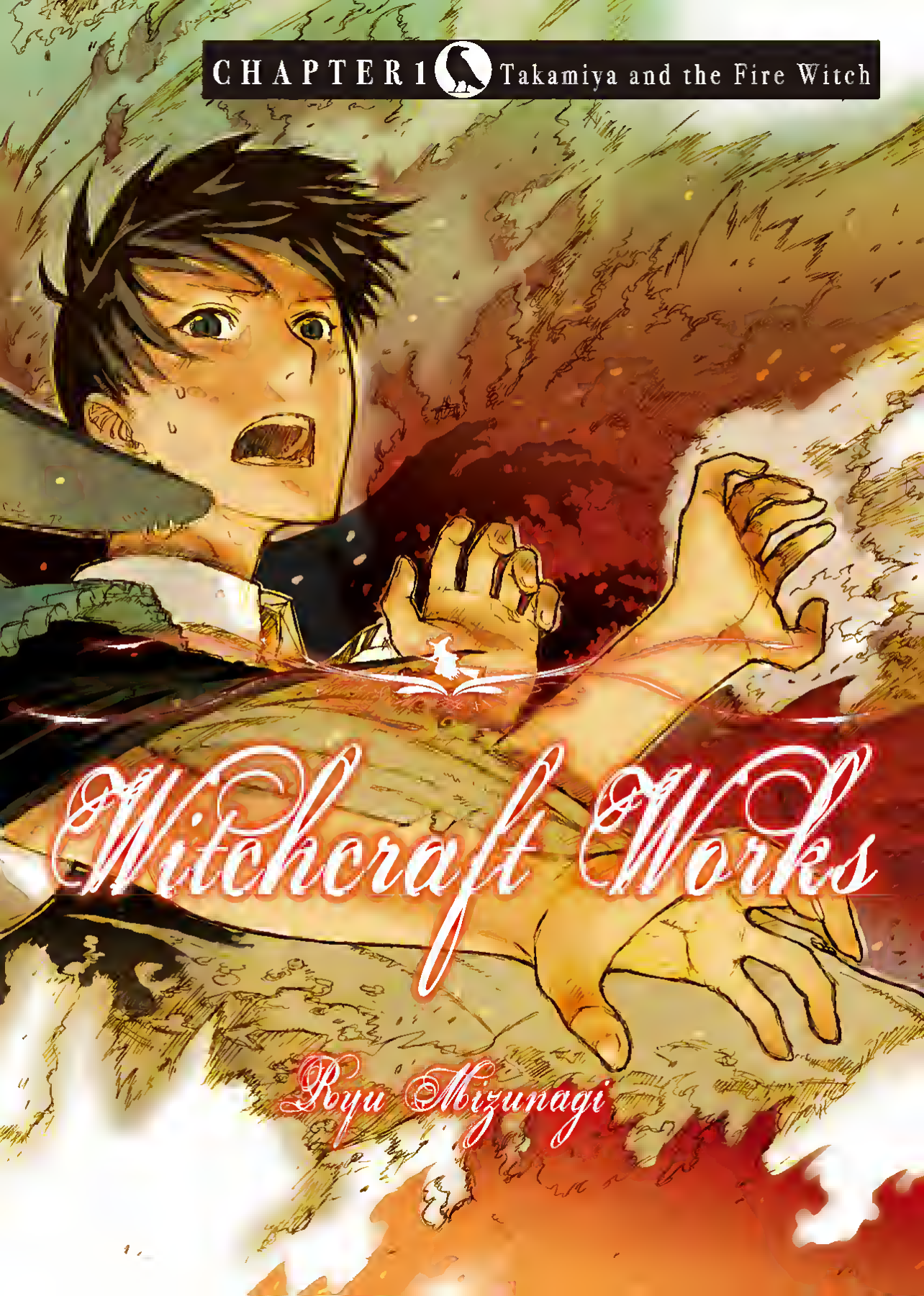
SHE WAS MY CLASS-MATE.


CHAPTER 1 Takamiya and the Fire Witch
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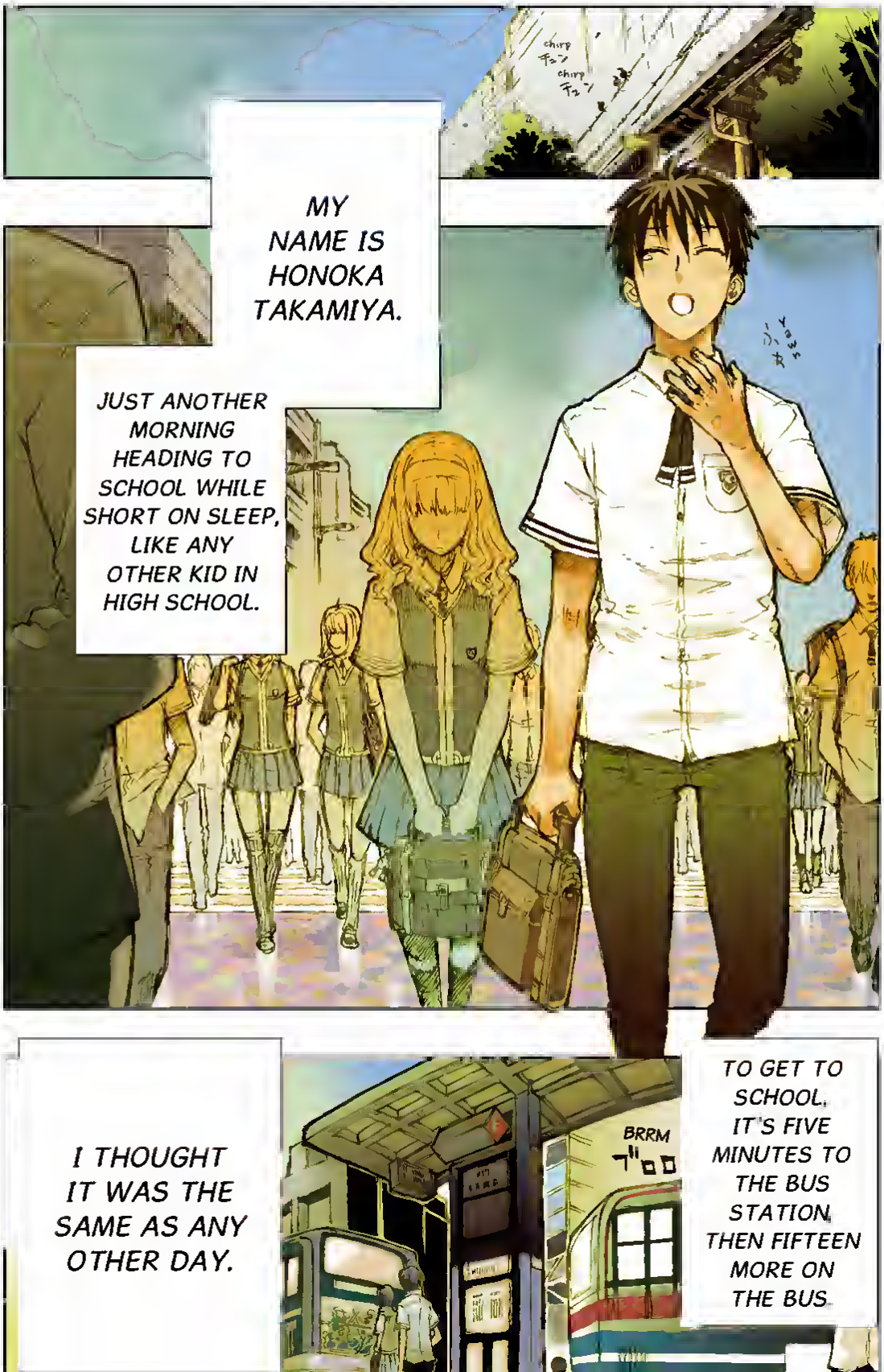
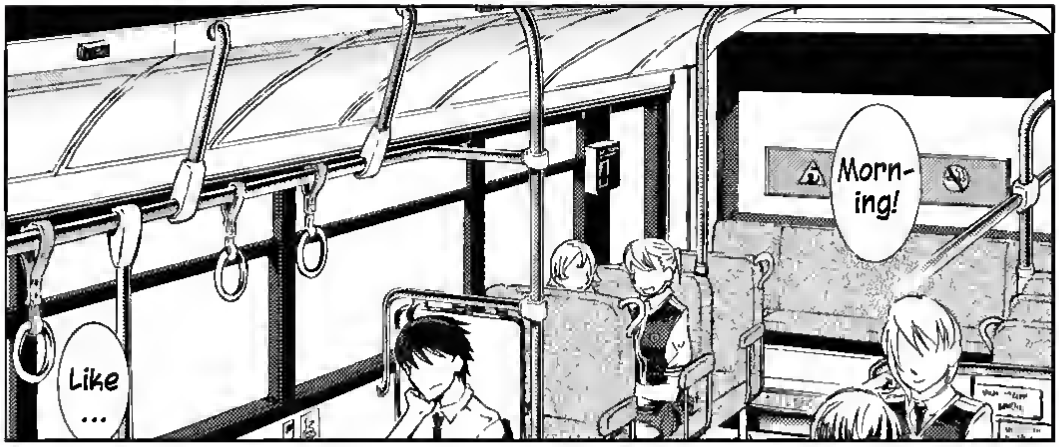
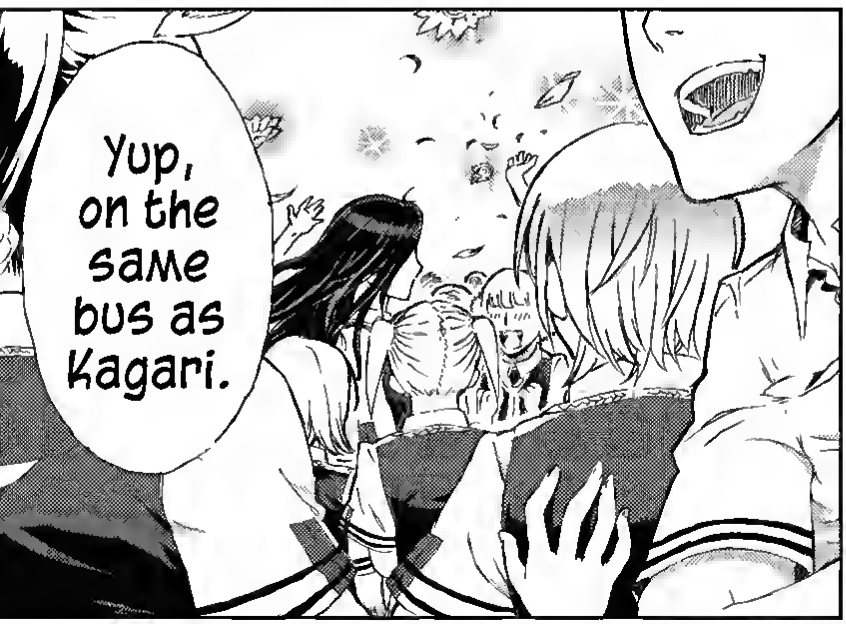
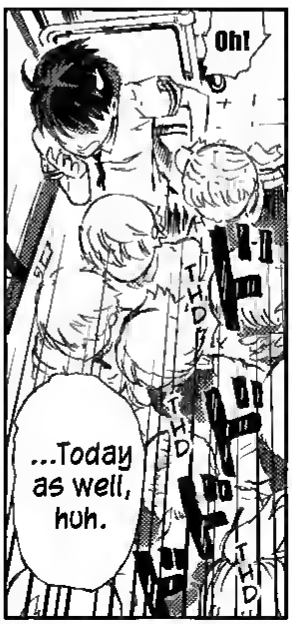
SHE WAS MY CLASS-MATE.


chirp
チュン
chirp
チュン
MY NAME IS HONOKA TAKAMIYA.
JUST ANOTHER MORNING HEADING TO SCHOOL WHILE SHORT ON SLEEP, LIKE ANY OTHER KID IN HIGH SCHOOL.
I THOUGHT IT WAS THE SAME AS ANY OTHER DAY.
BRRM
ブーン
TO GET TO SCHOOL, IT'S FIVE MINUTES TO THE BUS STATION, THEN FIFTEEN MORE ON THE BUS.

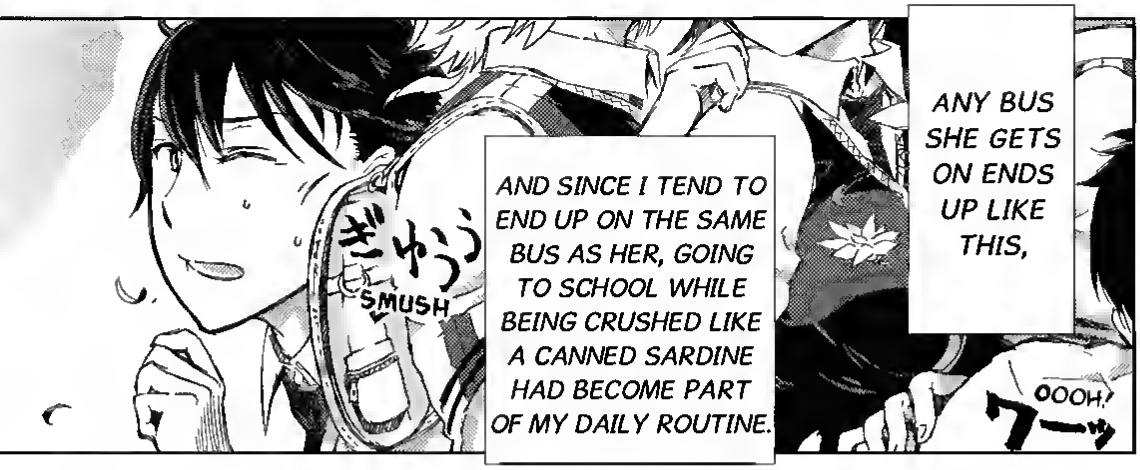

Morn-
ing!
Like
...

AAAA
HHH
HH
!!!
THD

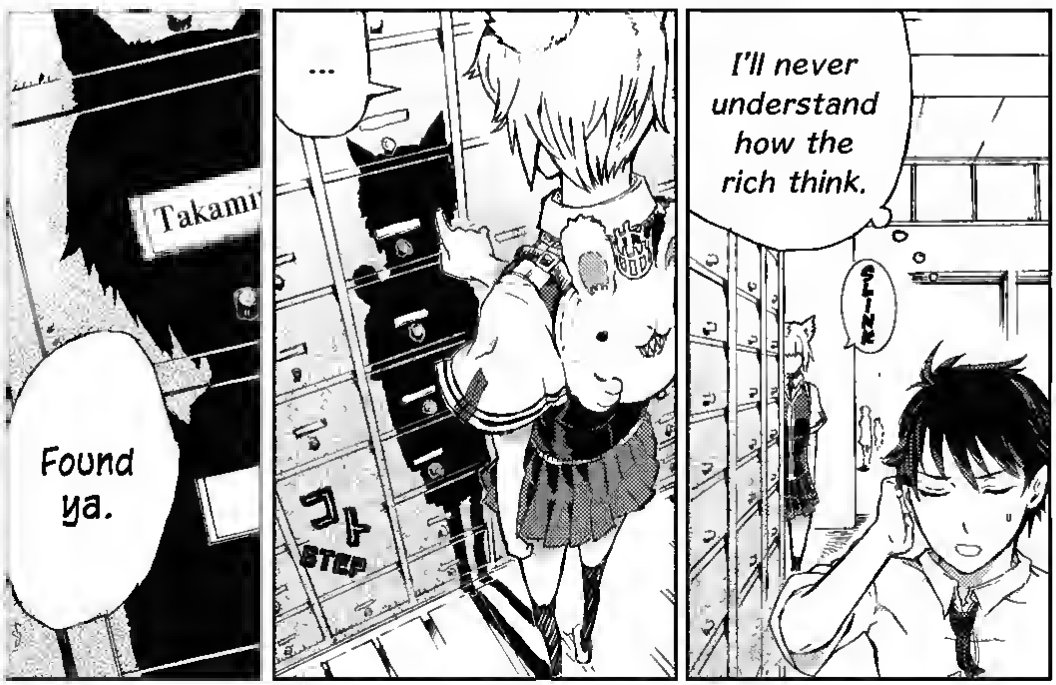

Yup,
on the
same
bus as
Kagari.


Oh!
...Today
as well,
huh.
THD

AAAHHH!!
PRINCESS!!
MISS AYA-KA !!
AS YOU CAN SEE, SHE'S BEAUTIFUL, AND SHE'S SO POPULAR AT SCHOOL SHE HAS HER OWN FAN CLUB.
ALL OF THESE SHRIEKS ARE DIRECTED TOWARD HER— AYAKA KAGARI.

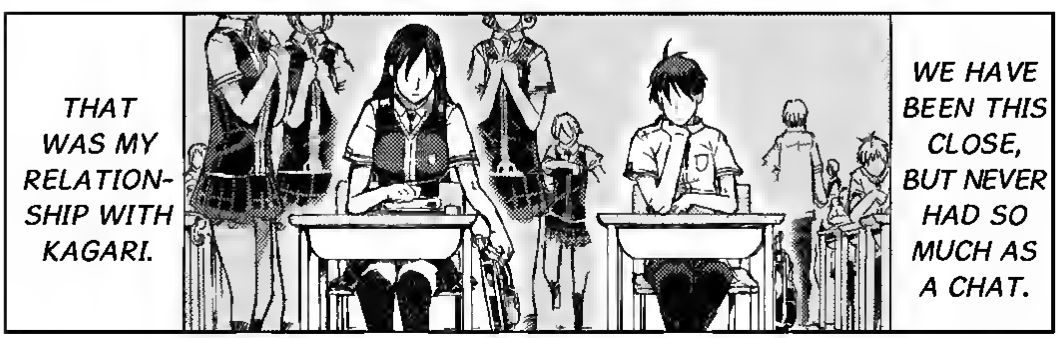

ぎゅう
SMUSH
AND SINCE I TEND TO END UP ON THE SAME BUS AS HER, GOING TO SCHOOL WHILE BEING CRUSHED LIKE A CANNED SARDINE HAD BECOME PART OF MY DAILY ROUTINE.
ANY BUS SHE GETS ON ENDS UP LIKE THIS,
OOOH!
ウーッ

She should just take a car to school.
CLICK
Isn't Kagari the Chair-woman's daughter ?

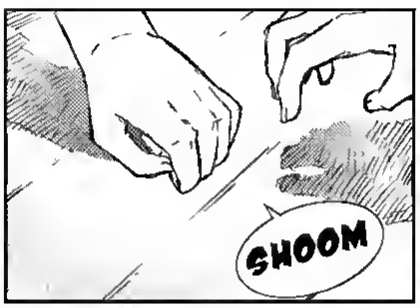

Takami
Found ya.
...
コト
STEP
I'll never understand how the rich think.
CLINK

I HAD THOUGHT...
THAT I WOULD NEVER HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH AYAKA KAGARI,
CLUNK

EVEN IF SHE WERE MY CLASS-MATE, AND EVEN IF SHE DID SIT TO MY RIGHT IN CLASS.
SLIP


THAT WAS MY RELATION-SHIP WITH KAGARI.
WE HAVE BEEN THIS CLOSE, BUT NEVER HAD SO MUCH AS A CHAT.

I hope they reassign seats soon.
This seat is nothing but trouble...


SHOOM

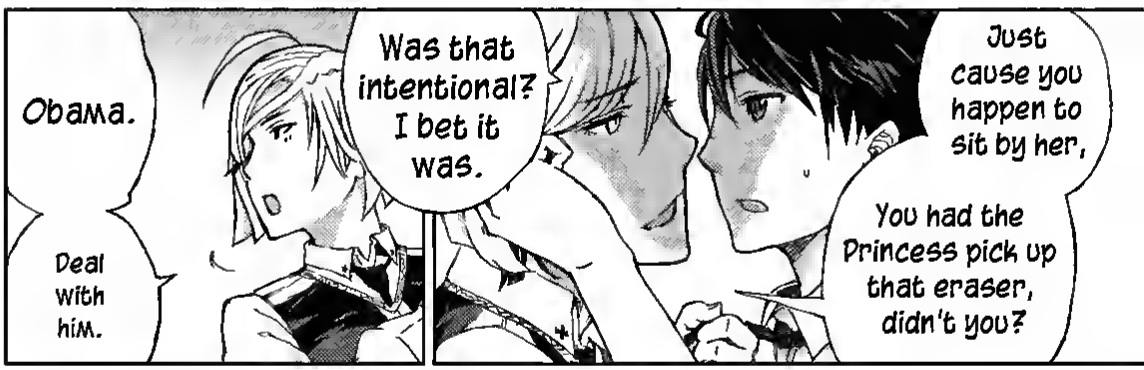
Oops!
ぽろん
BOOP

Th-
Thanks.

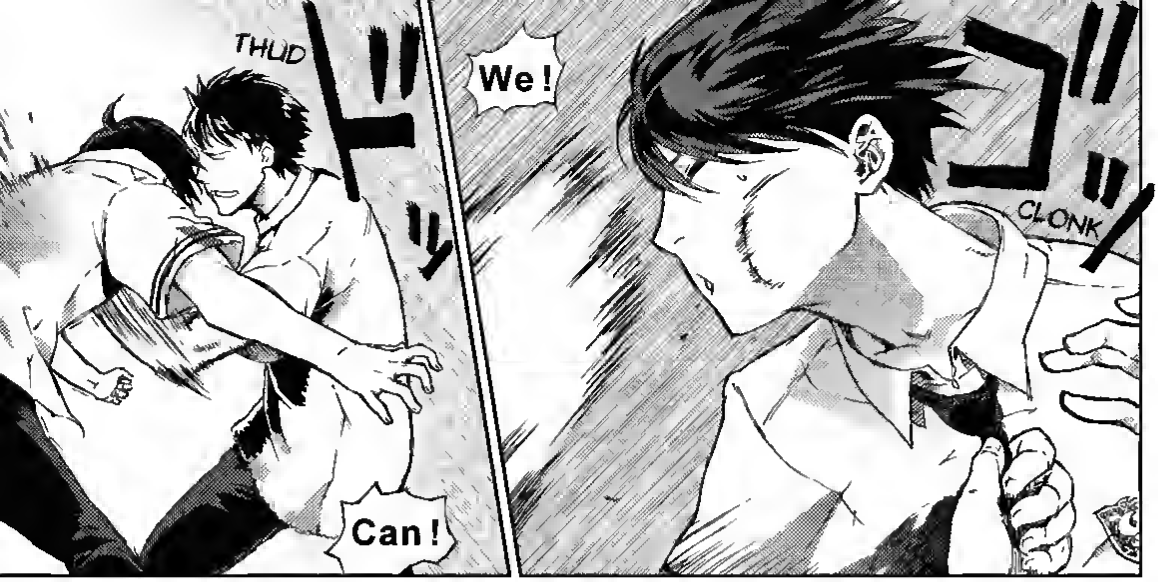
HMPH

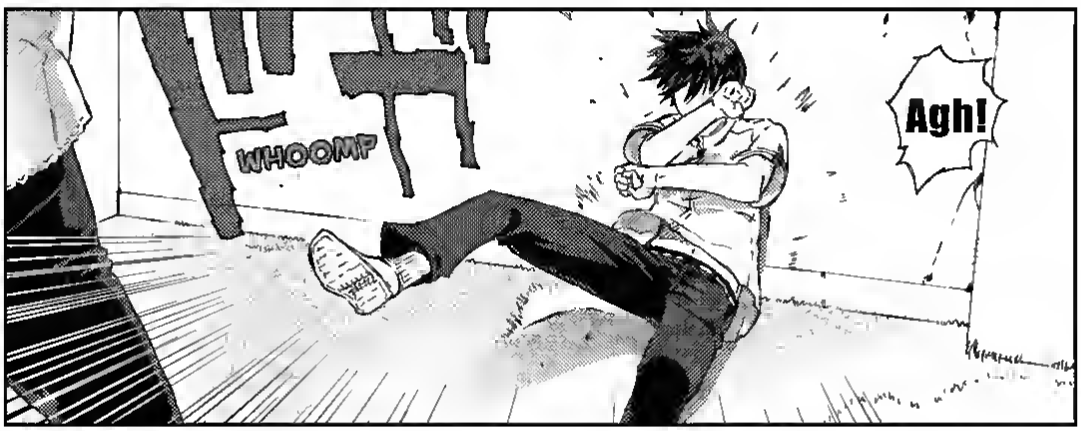
パアアア

Hey, who the hell do you think you are?
SST
AYAKA KAGARI'S SELF-APPOINTED ELITE GUARD


Obama.
Deal with him.
Was that intentional? I bet it was.
Just cause you happen to sit by her,
You had the Princess pick up that eraser, didn't you?

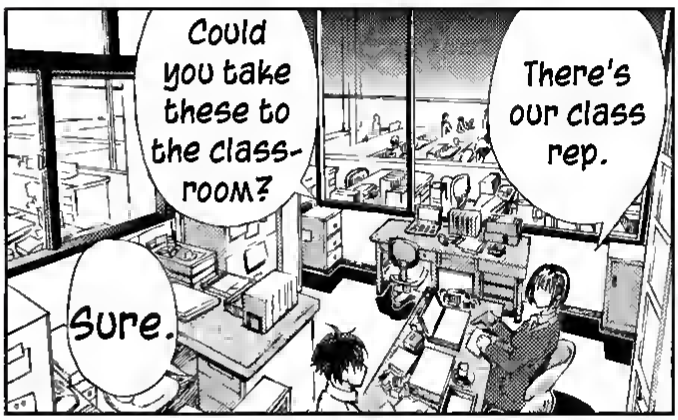
Yes !


THUD
We!
CLONK
Can!


WHOOMP
Agh!

LEADS TO GETTING WRAPPED UP IN RIDICULOUS ACCUSA-TIONS, LIKE THIS.
Learn your lesson?
Don't you ever look at the princess like that again!
GETTING IN-VOLVED WITH HER...

Ow...

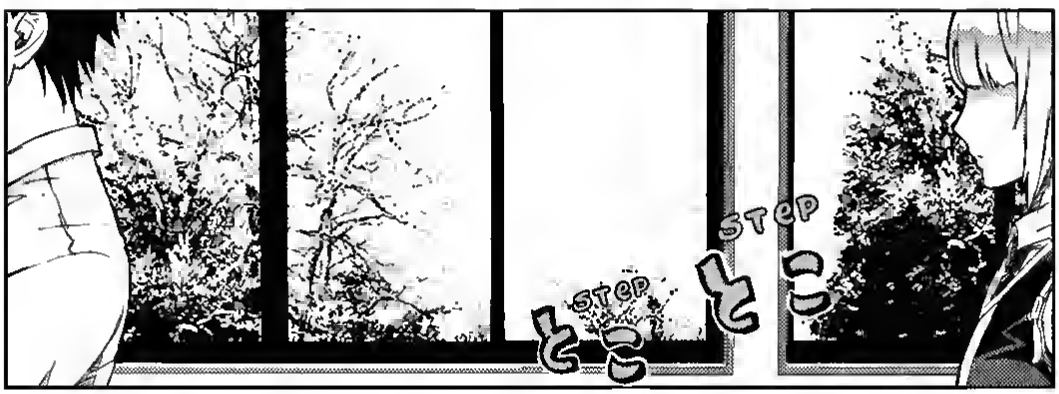

Could you take these to the class-room?
There's our class rep.
Sure.

Staff Room

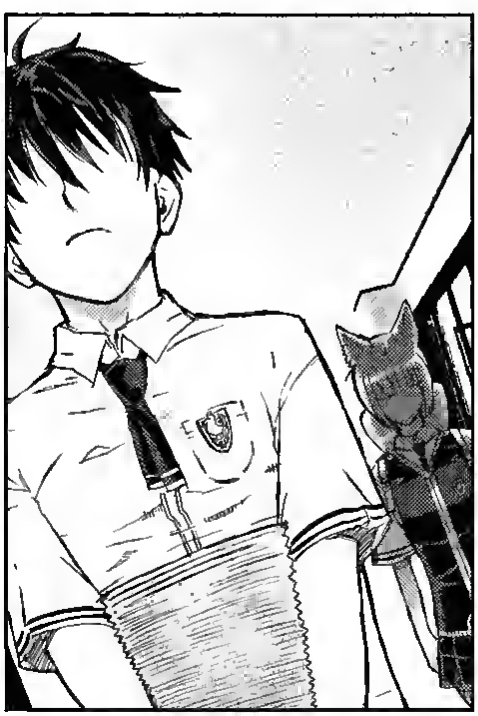
STEP
と ー

STEP
と ー

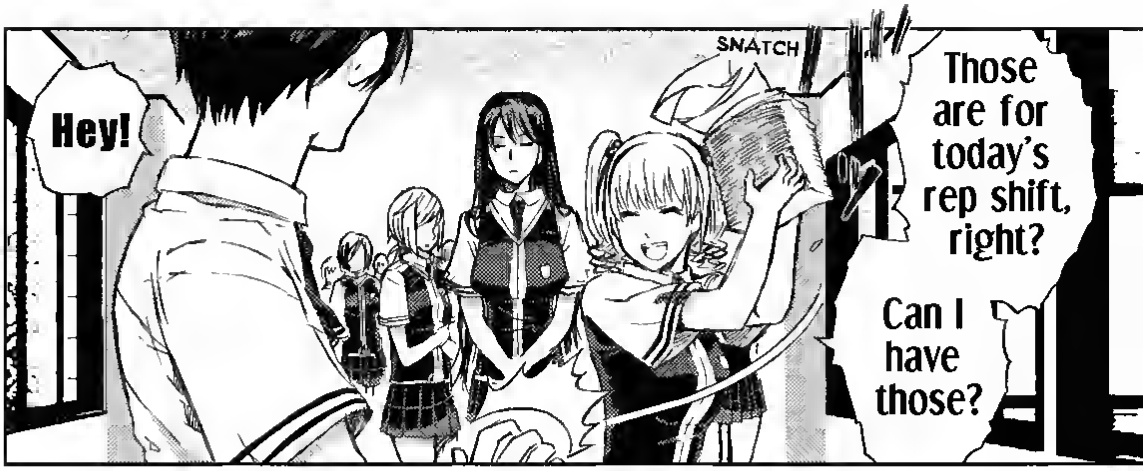
STEP
とこ
STEP
とこ


STEP
とこ
STEP
とこ

REEACH



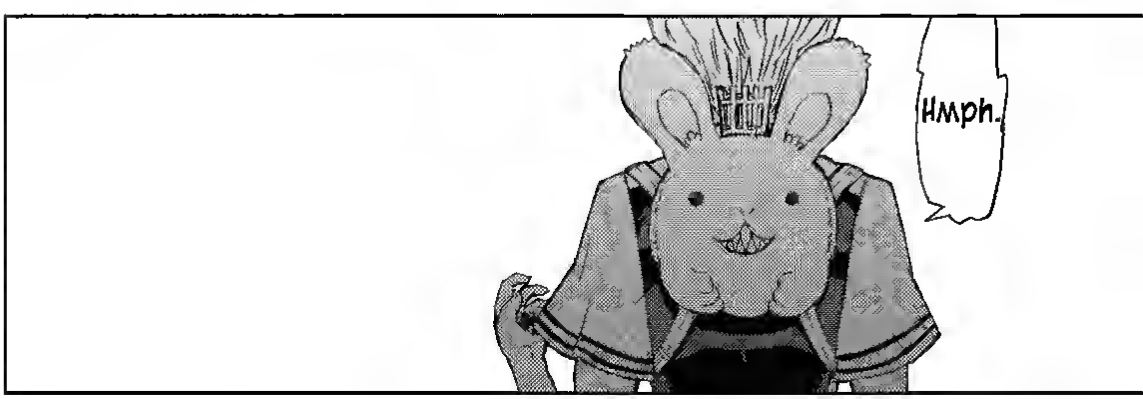
Taka-
miya
!
POTO
POT

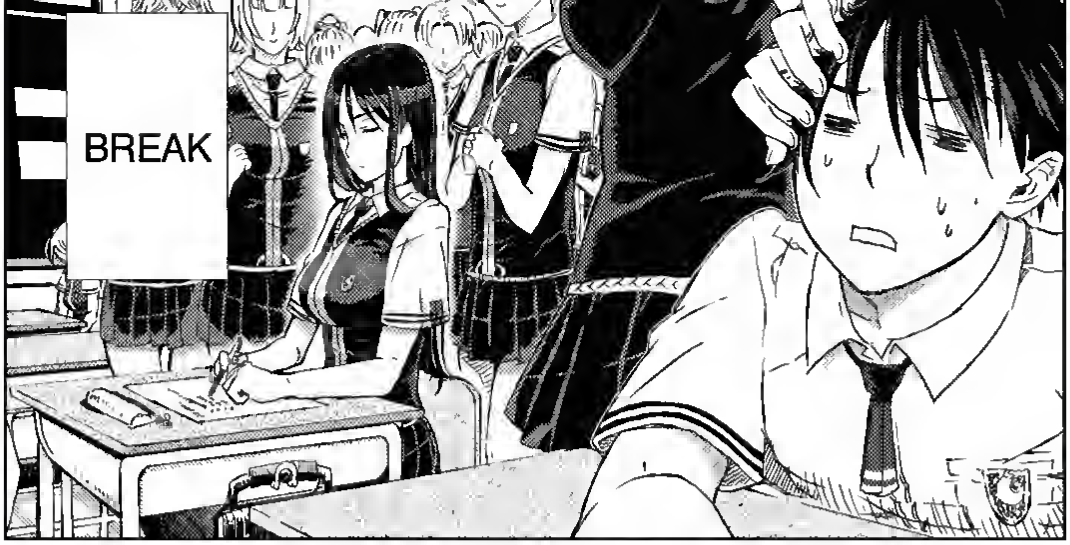

Hey!
SNATCH
Those are for today's rep shift, right?
Can I have those?

SKE-DADDLE
What was up with that?

Guess Kagari was on duty today, too.
Ohh.

I got them! Let's go!!
Prin-cess !!
TWIRL


Hmph.

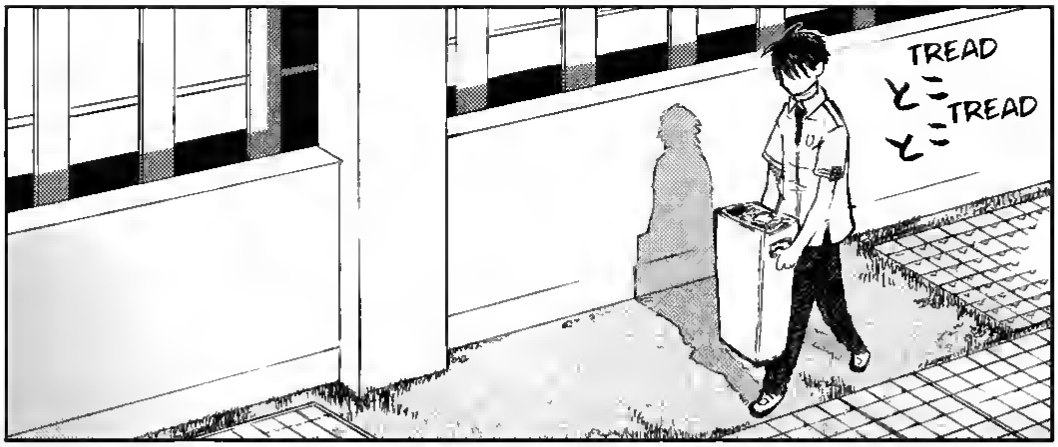

BREAK

You have to hear this!!
Prin-cess !!

CHITTER-CHATTER
THEY'RE ACTING LIKE I'M IN THE WAY, BUT I'M JUST IN MY SEAT...

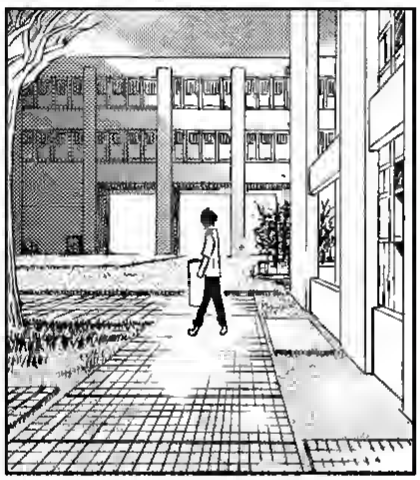
ROOOAR !!

RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
Taka-
Miya!
I'll
pass.
I'M on
duty,
anyway.
...
Yo,
stop
it!
Wanna
go to
karaoke
after
this?
Hey,
Taka-
Miya!
Hey,
you boys
over there!
Stop slacking
and start
cleaning!
Dude's
gloomy.
He never
hangs
out with
anyone.
Didn't
I tell
you?
CHATTER
Takamiya,
you're
on trash
duty!

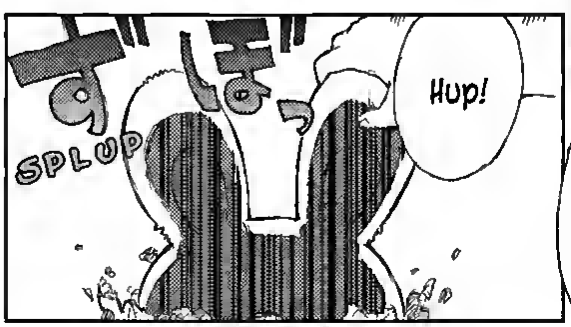

TREAD
とこ
TREAD
とこ

PEEP
ヒョコ

HM
?

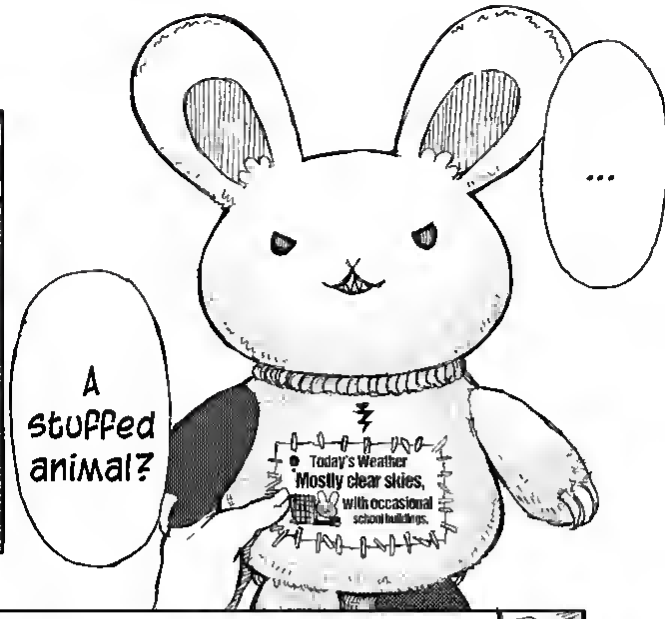


...
PLOP
ごと


すぽっ
SPLUP
Hup!

What's this white thing?
Huh ...?
I don't remember it being here earlier...

Today's Weather
Mostly clear skies,
with occasional
school buildings.


...
A stuffed animal?
Today's Weather
Mostly clear skies,
with occasional
school buildings.

with occa-sional...
school build-ings?
Today's Weather
Mostly clear ski
with occasional
school buildings.
Clear skies ...

HM?

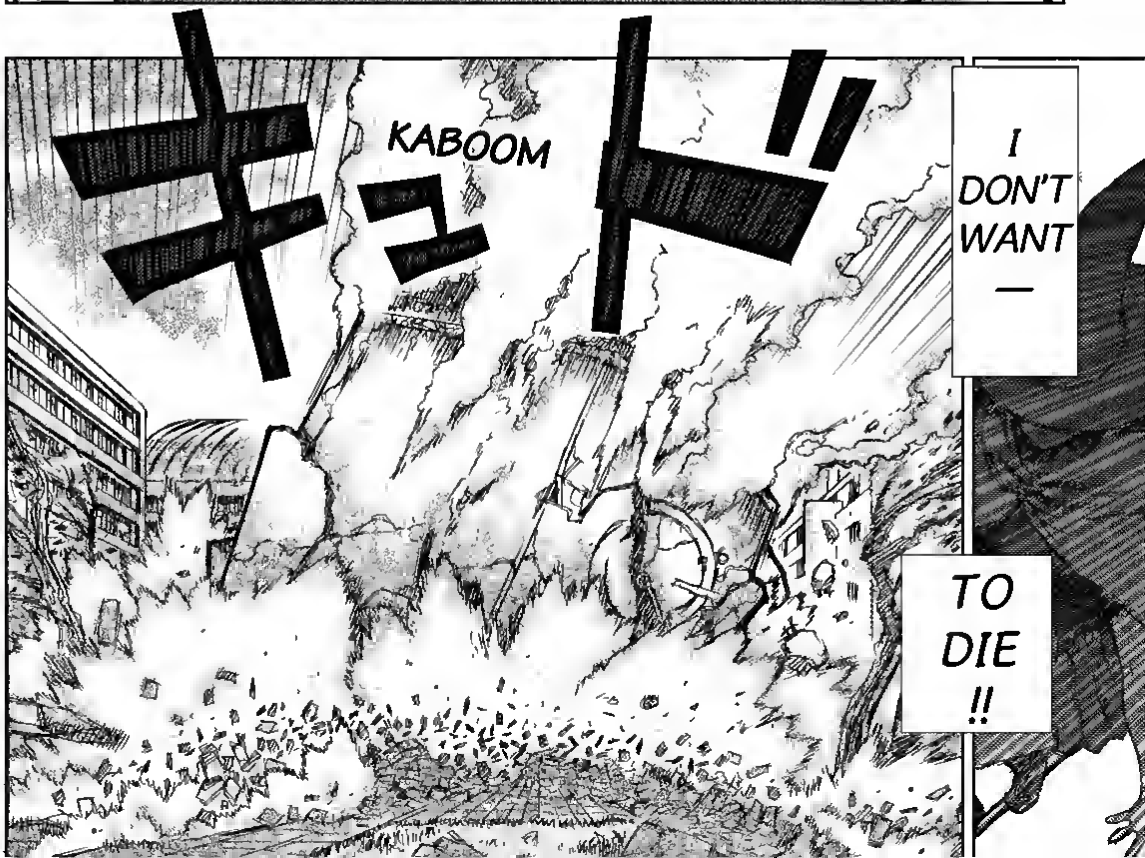
ゴゴゴ RUMBLE ゴゴゴ RUMBLE ゴ

RUMBLE
RUMBLE

WHA AAT ?!
THIS
.....
Wh—

IT'S HEADED STRAIGHT TOWARD ME...
WHY IS IT FALLING FROM THE SKY?
WHAT IS THAT? THE SCHOOL'S CLOCK TOWER?
—

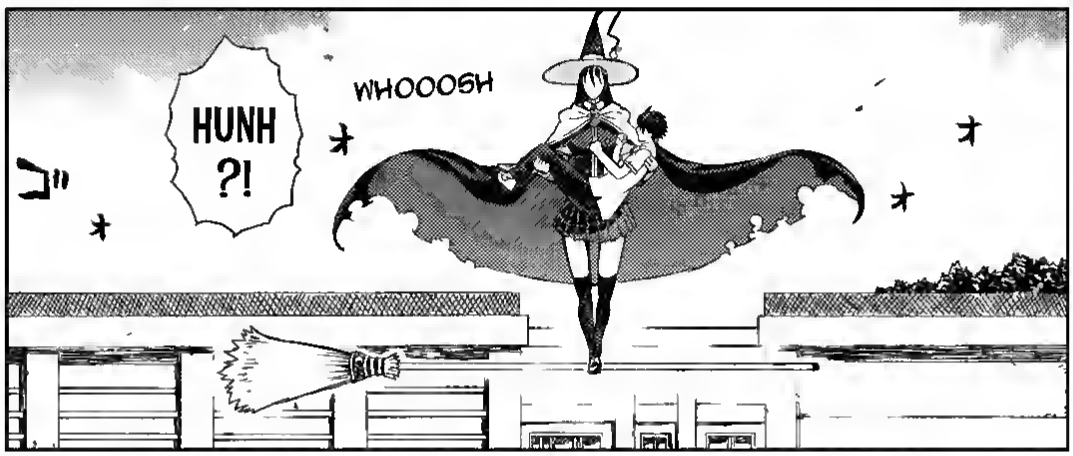
BUT...
ゴゴゴゴゴ
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
AM I... GOING TO DIE?


KABOOM
I DON'T WANT —
TO DIE !!

I...
HAVEN'T EVEN HELD A GIRL'S HAND YET.
...
...
HM?
I'M... ALIV—
SOME-THING SMELLS KIND OF NICE—
HMM ?!
?
A HAND ?

HOLD ON.
HUH?
KAGARI ...?
WHAT?

Stay still. You'll fall.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING, KAGARI ?!
SHAKE SHAKE
AAGH !!


HUNH ?!
WHOOOSH

ROOOAR
?!

HUH ?!
TH-THUMP
TH-TH-
AND WAIT A SECOND, WE'RE FLOATING!!
THE COURTYARD! THIS IS TERRIBLE!
AAHH !
I'M UP HERE ?!
CLING
KAGARI'S HOLDING ME IN HER ARMS!
JERK
S- SOR- RY!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
Let's see how good she is.
SNAP
SWOOSH
ROOOAR
A Work- shop Witch, eh?
ZAKK

They're coming.
Who?

WHOOMP
SQUEEZE
JERK
WAGH!

AAAAAAA!!
TOSS
ぶ"
AH!

ヒュッ
SLASH
ガ

ボーン
BOOM
ボーン
BOOM

ボ
BWOOF
フ

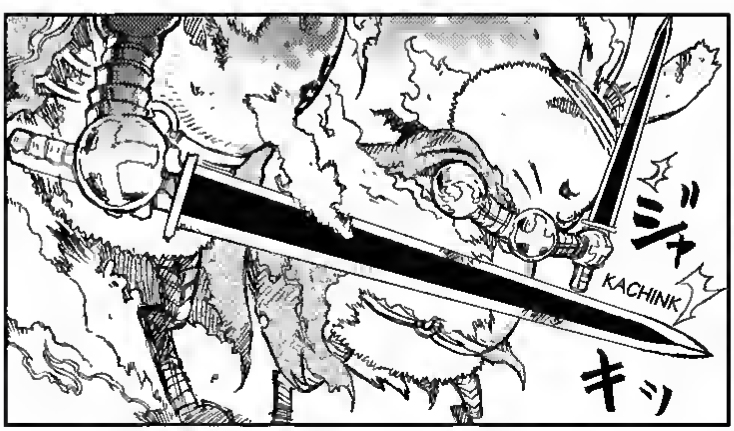
AAAAAAAGH

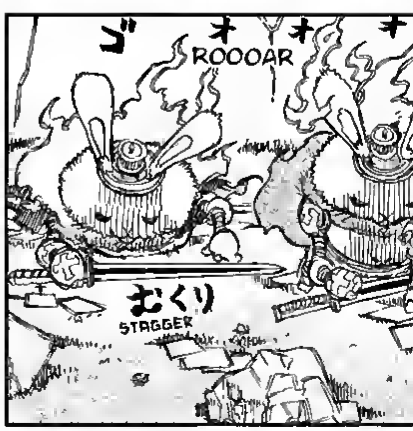
...

NOD
コク
NOD
コク
...

You're not hurt,
PIOP
ぽす
are you?

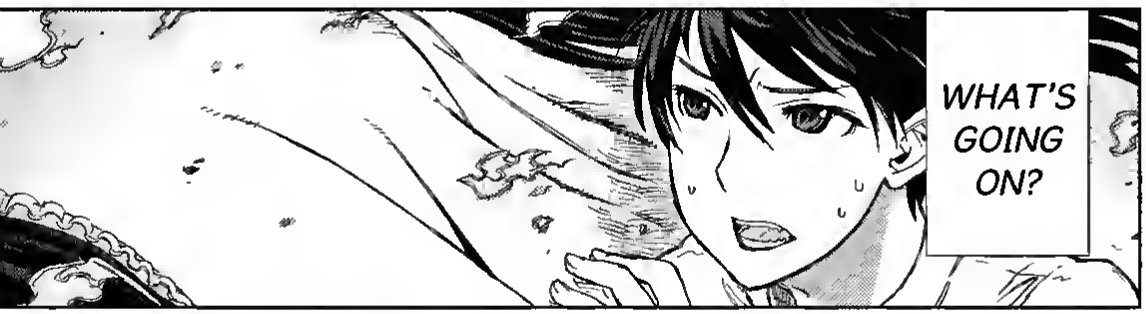
Stay by my side.


ジャ
KACHINK
キッ


ゴオオオオオ
ROOOAR
むくり
STAGGER

GROOOAR
ROOAR

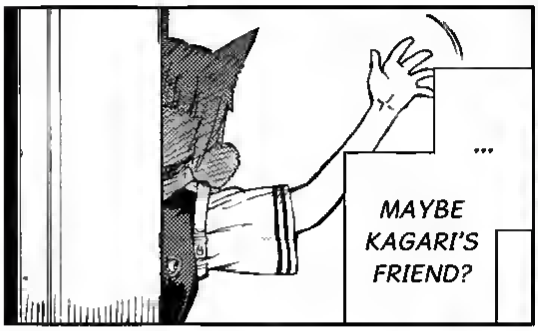
ACK!


WHAT'S GOING ON?

HOW IS THIS EVEN HAPPEN-ING?

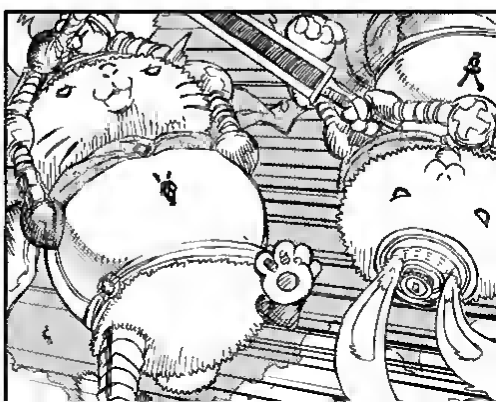
WHO IS THAT?
SOME-ONE'S CALL-ING TO ME.

ガキィン
KLAANG
C'mon, Hey, over Taka-this Miya! way!
It's safe here!

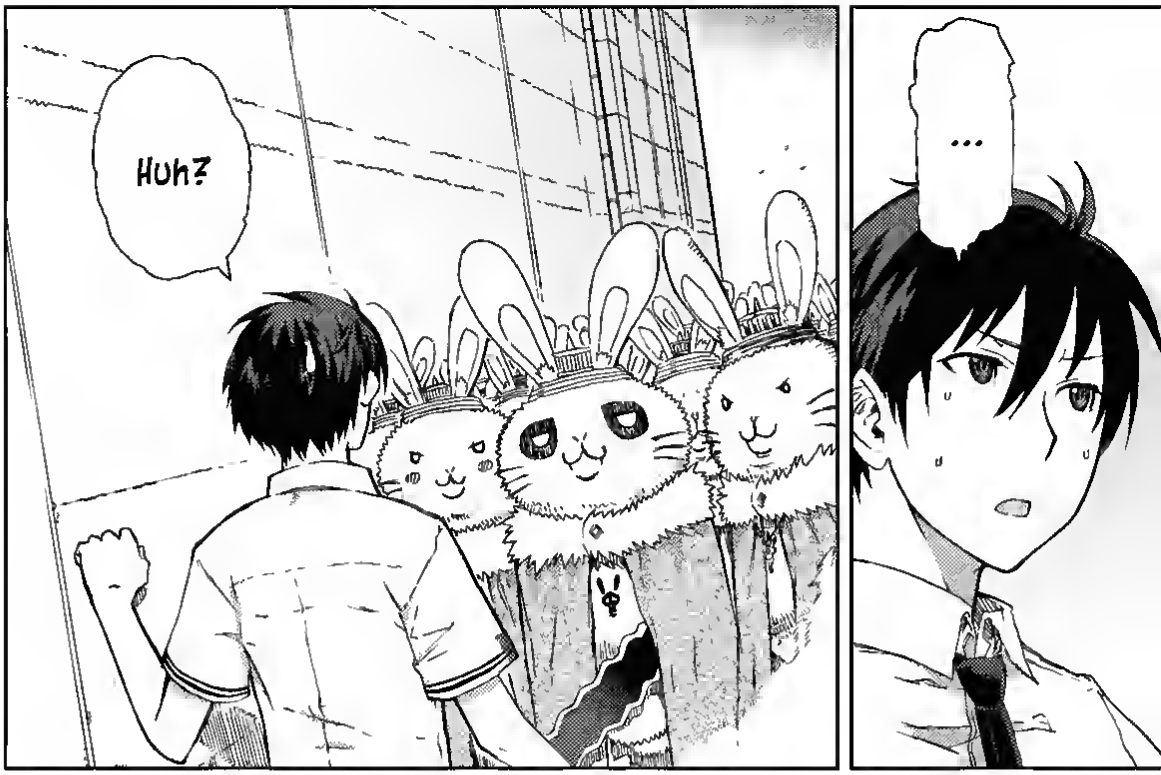

...
MAYBE KAGARI'S FRIEND?

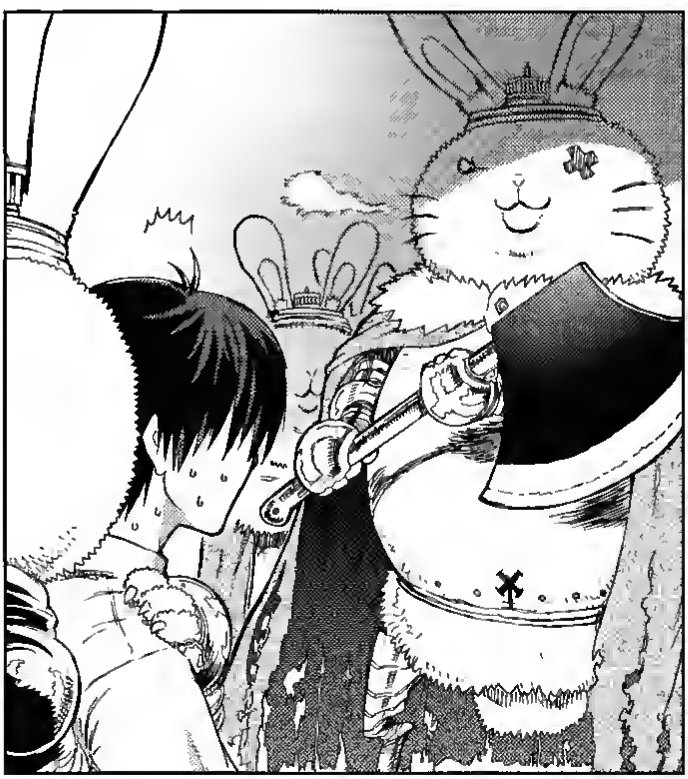
STEP
たっ
YEAH, SHE MUST BE. I'LL LET YOU TAKE CARE OF THIS, KAGARI.

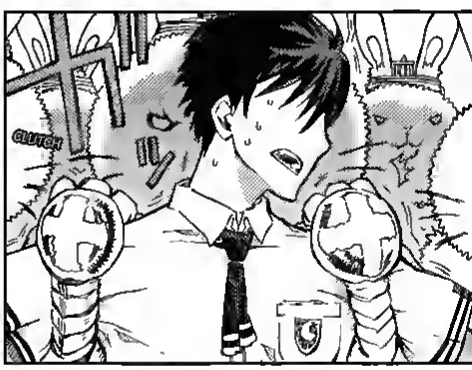
ボッ
BOOM



GABOOM
Burst !!
SWOOSH
ボト
KRAKL
KRAKL
ボト
VANISHED
こっぜん
…
Taka-Miya?

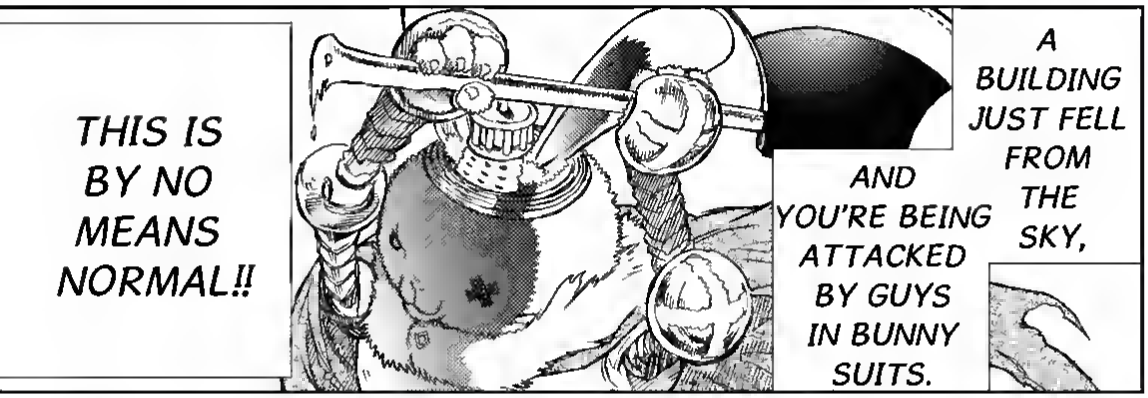

Huh?
...




GLUTCH

ズズズ

C...
CALM DOWN, HONOKA.


THIS IS BY NO MEANS NORMAL!!
A BUILDING JUST FELL FROM THE SKY,
AND YOU'RE BEING ATTACKED BY GUYS IN BUNNY SUITS.

Taka-Miya !!
THIS ALL...
MUST BE A DREAM.
THAT'S RIGHT...
I'M DREAM-ING.

KA...
GROOOO

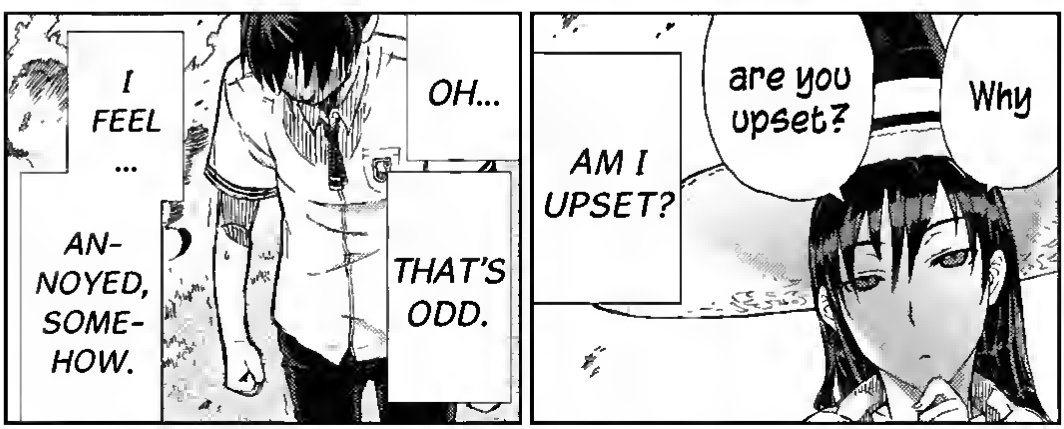
Didn't I say to stay by my side?
Heh ...
You're just as beautiful in my dreams, too.
ROOOAR
Dreams?
Yeah... My dreams.
Otherwise, none of this would make sense, and why would you be rescuing—
Because it's My Mission.
What?
I know you must be confused right now, but you don't need to worry.
I'll protect you, Honoka Takamiya.
INCH
close up

Because you're my PRINCESS.
Excuse me?

...UM.
UM...
I THINK FOLLOWED HER FOR MOST OF THAT. I THINK SHE SAID SOMETHING COOL.
BUT MAYBE I MISHEARD HER?
CAUSE SHE LOST ME AT THE END THERE...
KRAKL
SST
Stop resisting, and let me protect you.
...HUH?
KAGARI... YOUR HAIR...
IS THAT BECAUSE YOU SAVED ME?
...ME?

Why did you come here?
...Kagari,
Why did you save me?

.....?
You're my prin-ss—
That's not what I mean !!
...I just told you.


I FEEL ... AN-NOYED, SOME-HOW.
OH... THAT'S ODD.
AM I UPSET?
are you upset?
Why

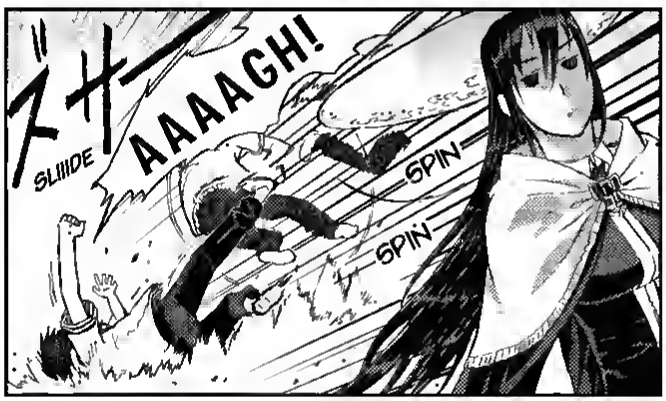
Kagari, your hair...
Your hair...
Why burn your hair over me!?
You should've just let me deal with the trouble!

WHY
AM I EVEN BLURTING THIS OUT?
Your hair is like a god-given Miracle!!

AND WE HAD NEVER EVEN SPOKEN TO EACH OTHER, RIGHT?
Maybe I'm a perv who unconsciously grew a fetish for her hair
JERK
JERK
...
WE'VE ONLY BEEN IN THE SAME CLASS FOR A MONTH,
WOBBL
Watch out !
...
BWOOSH
Hey !
!!

WHAM
GAH
...

OH


ズサー
SLIIIDE
AAAAGH!
SPIN
SPIN

Taka-
Miya
!!
KLAK
ばっ
SWOOP
Ugh
...

It's like
every-thing I do ends up looking lame.
...
Heh
...

...

SQUEEZE
ぎゅ

NOD
して

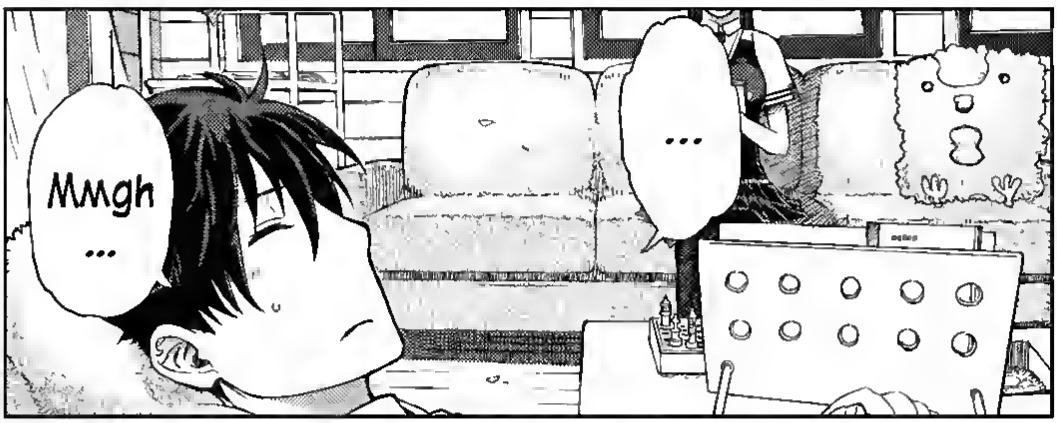
This is my fault.
FLARE
GRR
ROOOAR
GRR
I wasn't thorough enough.
SSSHHH
I should have turned
GWOOSH
every little wad of stuffing to ashes.
TWITCH

Incinerate them, Million Clover.
DIA-BOOM
I should retreat ...
I'll be back, Fire Witch.
SLIP

Incinerate them, Million Clover.

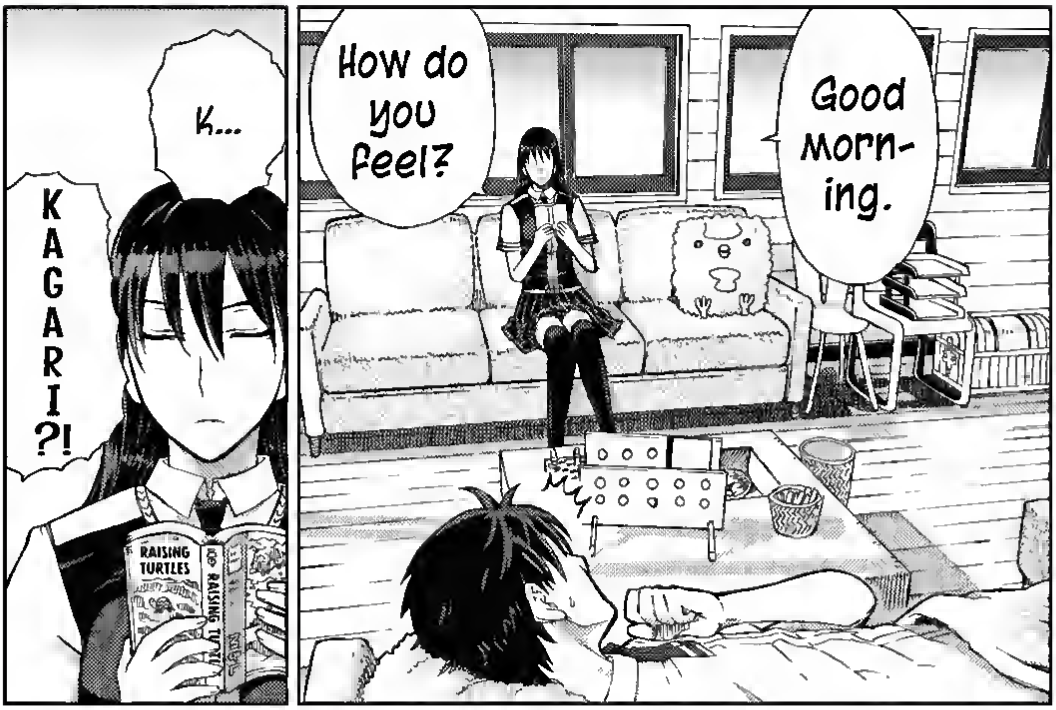
BIR-BOOM
I should retreat ...
I'll be back, Fire Witch.
SLIP

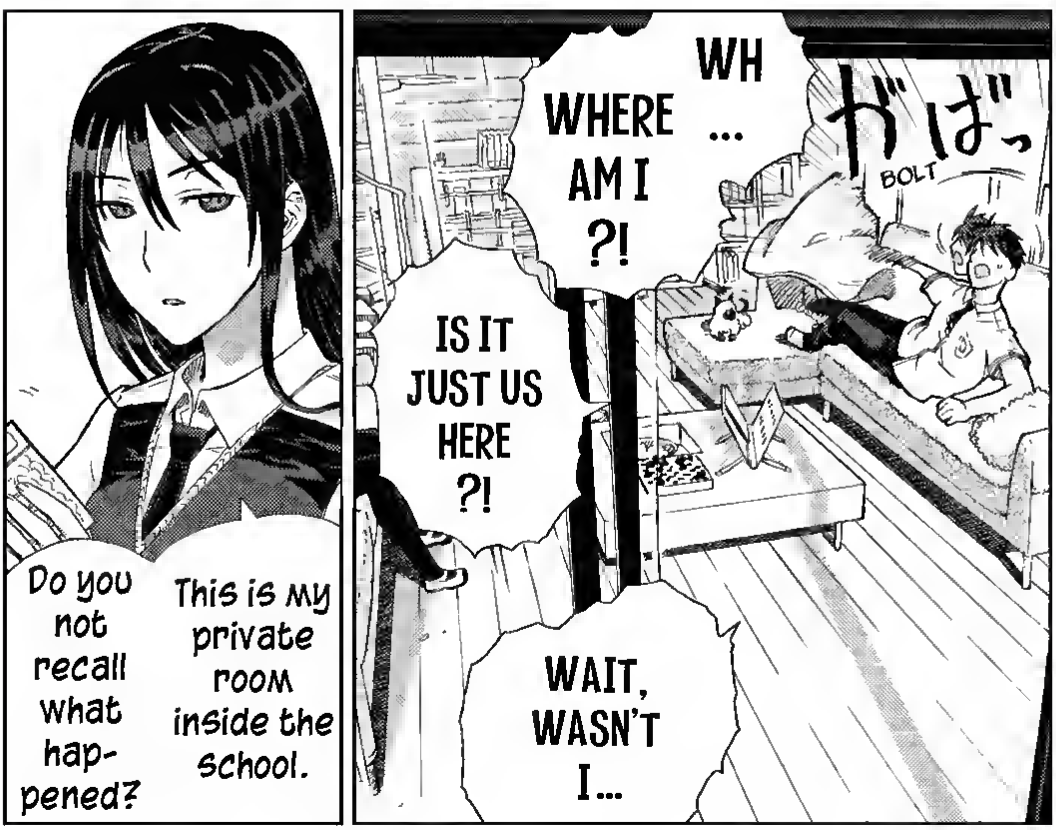
サラ FLUTTER
FLUTTER サラ


Mmgh
...
...

?
WHERE AM I?

...


K...
KAGARI?!
RAISING TURTLES
How do you feel?
Good morning.

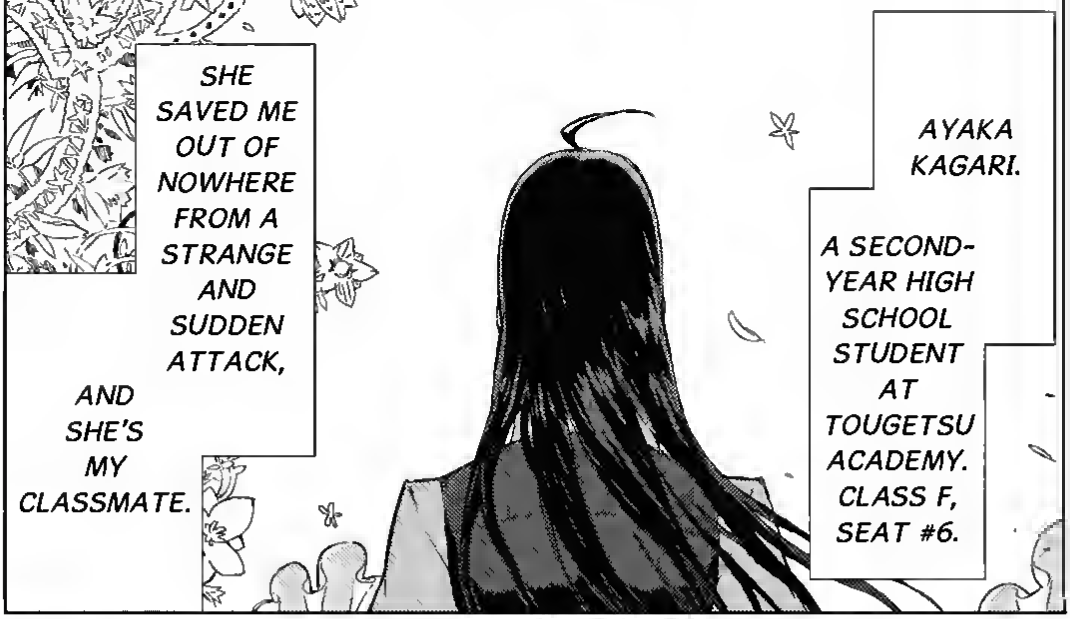

Do you not recall what happened?
This is my private room inside the school.
WH...
WHERE AM I?!
がばっ
BOLT
IS IT JUST US HERE?!
WAIT, WASN'T I...

It was not a dream.
ビシッ
SNAP
SHE LOOKS NORMAL AGAIN.
UM...
MUST'VE BEEN A DREAM.
I'll ex-plain, some day.
!!
Your bag's over there.
Anyway, school is over for the day.
Let's go back.
CLUNK
...

※ HONOKA ISN'T VERY SHARP.

My mission is to protect you.
Because you are my master.
WHA ?!
WASN'T I HER "PRINCESS" ?!
WHAT A STRANGE GIRL...
OH... THERE SHE GOES AGAIN.
You should stand by my side when we walk.
O... Okay.
STEP
Princess.
BUT THERE WAS A SLIGHT, SWEET SCENT ABOUT KAGARI.
THE REST OF THE WAY, WE DIDN'T SAY A SINGLE WORD TO EACH OTHER.

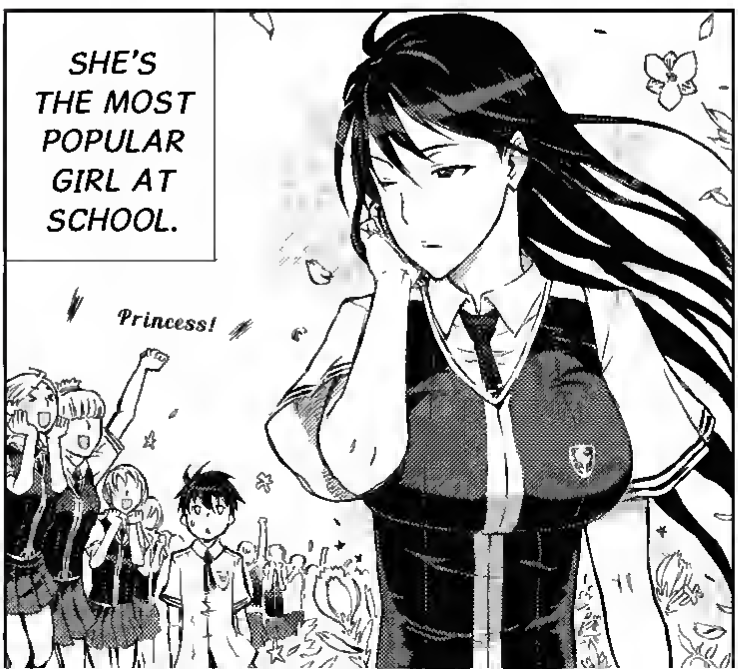
Witchcraft Works

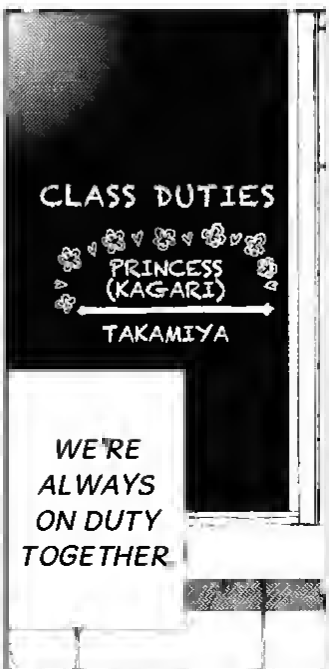

SHE SAVED ME OUT OF NOWHERE FROM A STRANGE AND SUDDEN ATTACK,
AND SHE'S MY CLASSMATE.
AYAKA KAGARI.
A SECOND-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT AT TOUGETSU ACADEMY. CLASS F, SEAT #6.

SHE SITS TO MY RIGHT.

WELL, NOT OFTEN. MORE LIKE ALWAYS.

WE OFTEN COMMUTE TOGETHER.


SHE'S THE MOST POPULAR GIRL AT SCHOOL.
Princess!

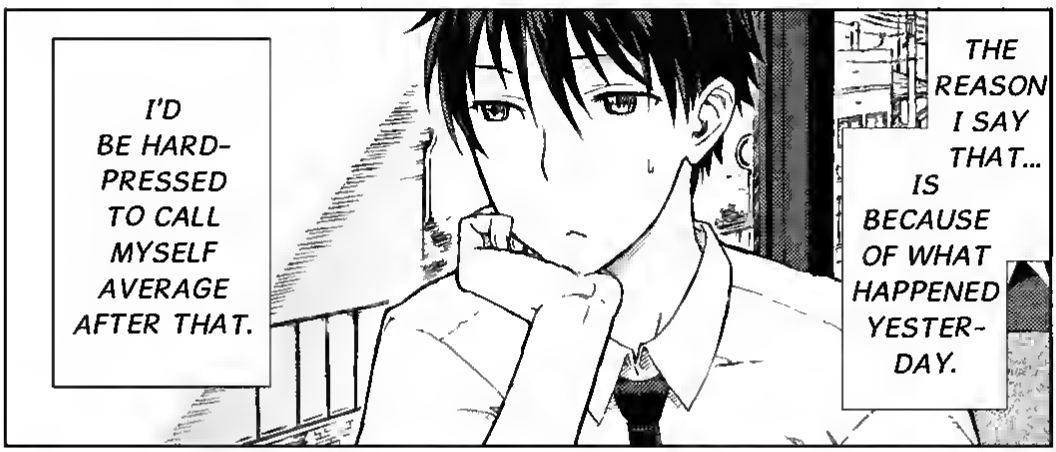

CLASS DUTIES
PRINCESS (KAGARI)
TAKAMIYA
WE'RE ALWAYS ON DUTY TOGETHER

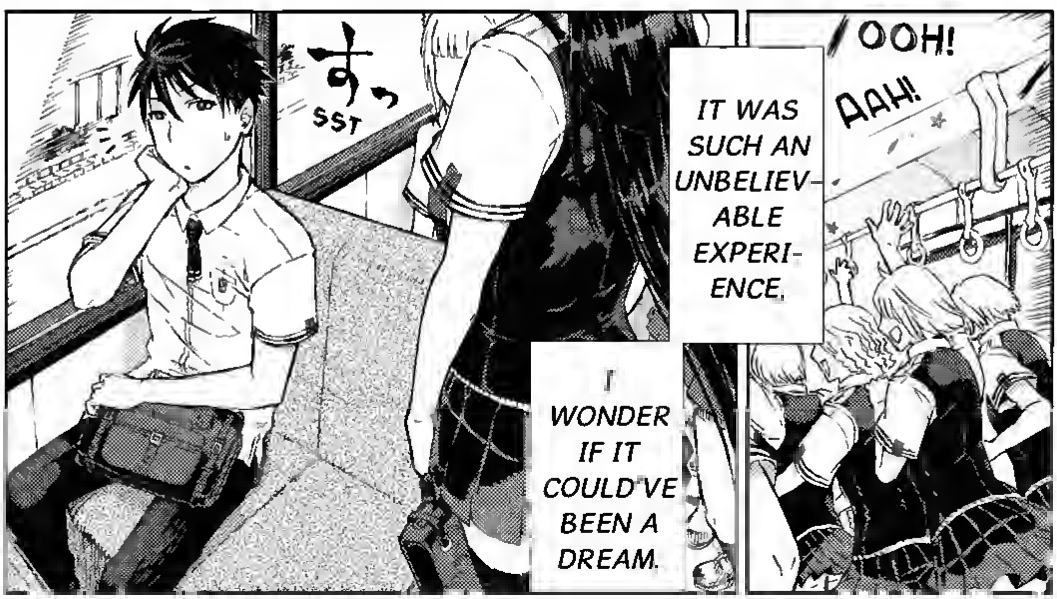
CHAPTER 2
Takamiya and the Furry-eared Witches
AND...
SHE'S A FIRE WITCH.

AND...
SHE'S A FIRE WITCH.

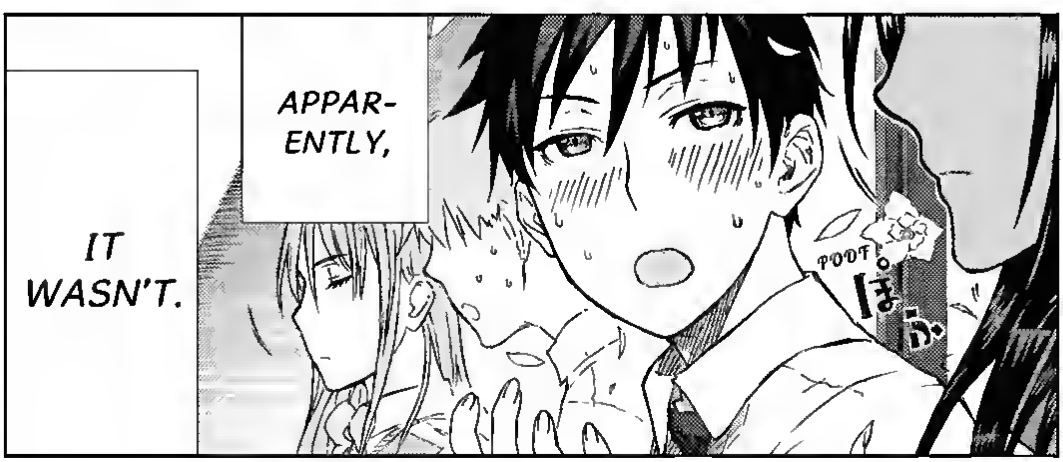
CHAPTER 2 Takamiya and the Furry-eared Witches

...OR AT LEAST, I'D LIKE TO SAY I AM.
I'M JUST YOUR AVERAGE, RUN-OF-THE-MILL HIGH SCHOOL KID.
MY NAME IS HONOKA TAKAMIYA.


I'D BE HARD-PRESSED TO CALL MYSELF AVERAGE AFTER THAT.
THE REASON I SAY THAT... IS BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED YESTER-DAY.


すっ
SST
IT WAS SUCH AN UNBELIEV-ABLE EXPERI-ENCE.
I WONDER IF IT COULD'VE BEEN A DREAM.
OOH!
AAH!

May I sit here,
Takamiya?

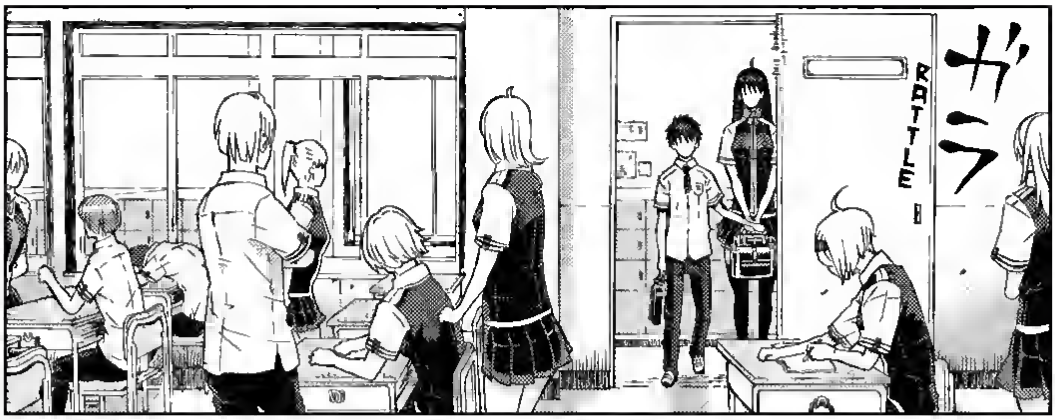

APPAR-ENTLY,
IT WASN'T.
POOF
ぽふ。

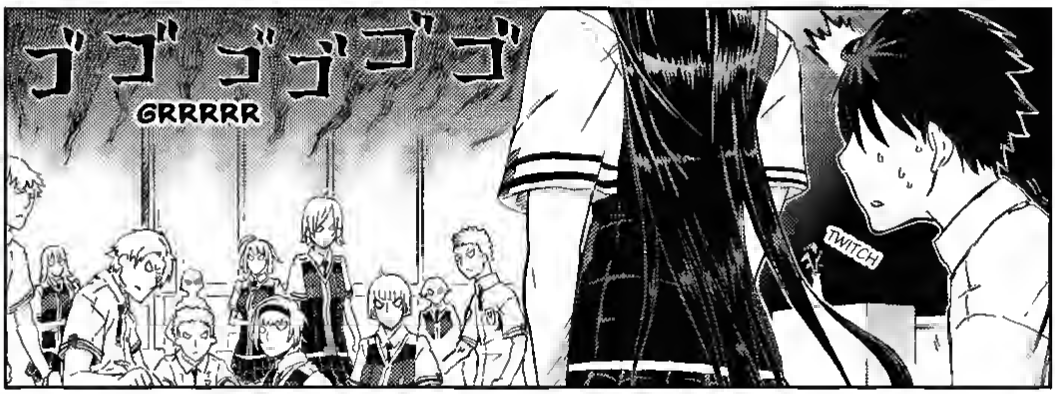
WHAT'S THAT RANDOM GUY DOING NEXT TO HER?!
WHO IS HE ?!
HEY! WHAT'S WITH THAT ?!
I love you, princess !
You're as beautiful as ever!
AHAH
Look! What's that ?!
The...
The princess is walking with a boy!!
PRIN-CESS !!
Where are the Guard?!
HE MUST BE DECEIVING HER!
OVER HERE !!
We're doing this from now on.
What !?!
Why are we walking to school together?
Kagari?
Uh...
UM...
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE STARING DAGGERS AT ME... OUCH.

WHAT'S THAT RANDOM GUY DOING NEXT TO HER?!
WHO IS HE ?!
HEY! WHAT'S WITH THAT ?!
I love you, princess !
You're as beautiful as ever!
ARGH
Look! What's that ?!
The...
The princess is walking with a boy!!

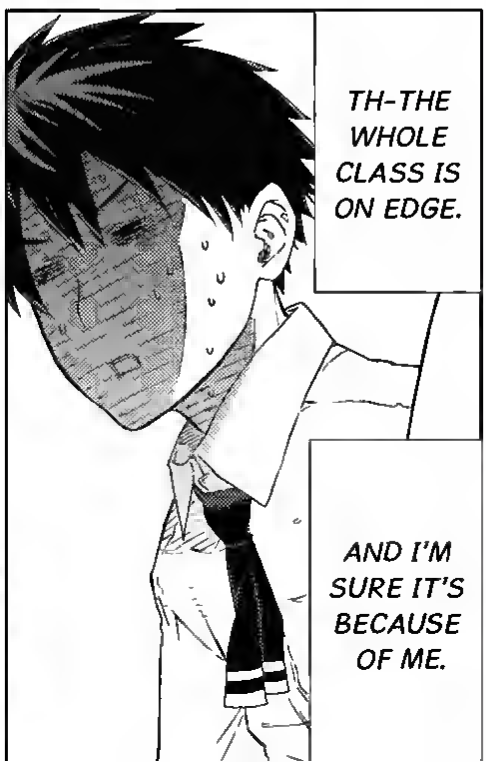
Uh...
Kagari?
Um...
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE STARING DAGGERS AT ME... OUCH.

PRIN-
CESS
!!
Where are the Guard?!
HE MUST BE DECEIVING HER!
OVER HERE
!!
We're doing this from now on.
What
!?!
Why are we walking to school together?


ガラ
RATTLE

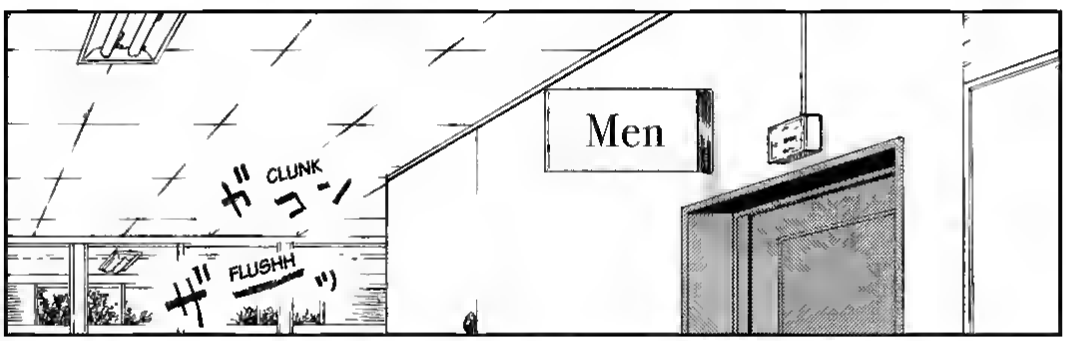

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ
GRRRRR
TWITCH

Is some-thing wrong?
No.


TH-THE WHOLE CLASS IS ON EDGE.
AND I'M SURE IT'S BECAUSE OF ME.

MY STOM-ACH...
Um
I need to use the bathroom.
GURRGLE

The whole school is talking about it!!
Why did a boy accompany you to school this morning?!
Princess !!!
Ah ...
I'll be right back!
DASH


Men
CLUNK
ガコーン
FLUSHH

HM?
Ah...
What now?

Agh!
THUD
Hold up
one second ...
STEP

AYAKA KAGARI'S ELITE GUARD (AKA: FAN CLUB)
Think you could explain to us
What you were doing this morning, Takamiya?
NOTICE

WELL, OF COURSE THEY ARE. THE WHOLE SCHOOL MUST KNOW ABOUT THIS MORNING BY NOW...
AND THAT INCLUDES THE FAN CLUB
TH...
THEY'RE HERE...

With a piece of trash like you?
HM?
Why was our noble princess...

GRRIP
Agh

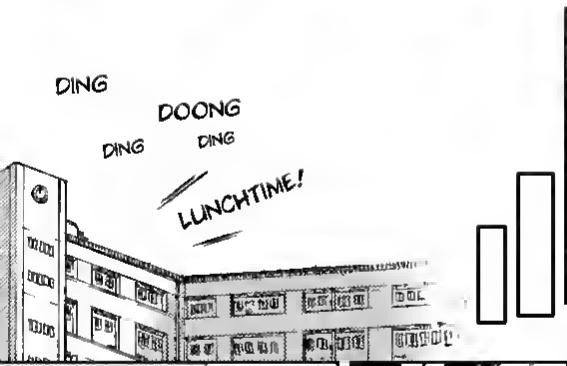
Homeroom's starting.
すSLINK
Taka-miya.
POP

COULD YOU TELL ME WHY?

?!
Prin-
cess
!
BOOM
POP
THUD
Koff
Come now—
stop
moving.
I-I'm
fine!
Your
collar
?
It's
ruffled.
SLIDE
Was
someone
being
rough with
you?

Be-
cause
I'll
burn
them
alive.

Cause if
there's ever someone who might harm you,
you need to tell me.


DING
DOONG
DING
DING
LUNCHTIME!

STUNNED
ぽかーん
SHUFFLE

...
There.

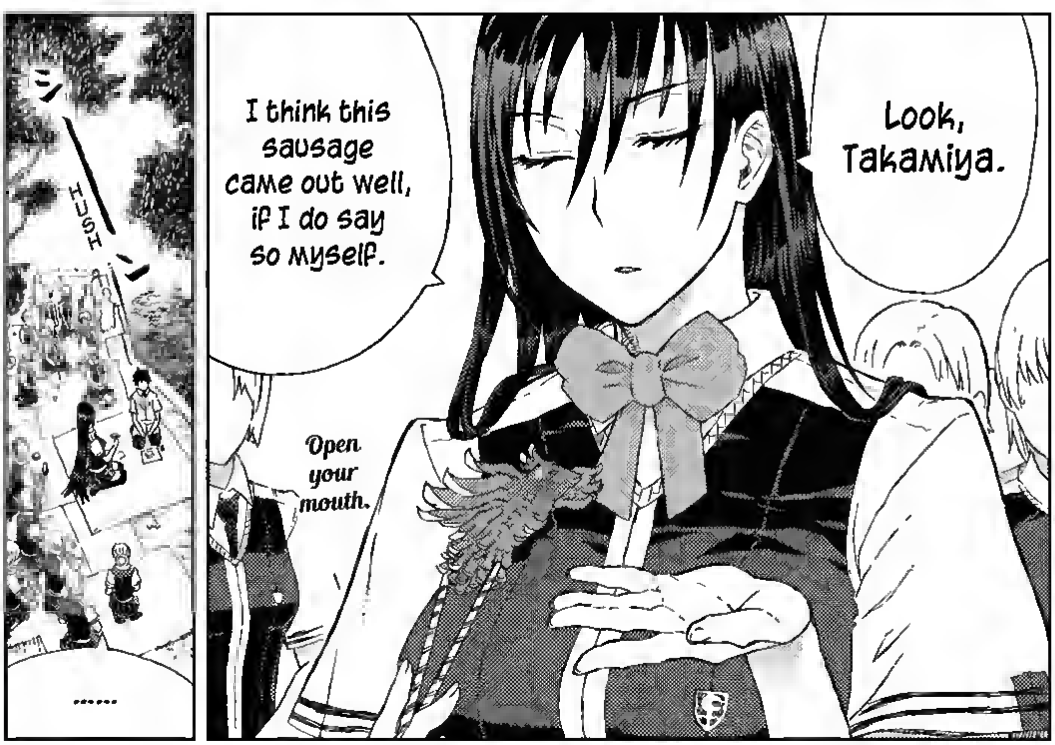
Come with me.

Fi-
nally

ゴ
ゴゴ
GRRRRR
ゴゴ
ゴ
ゴゴゴ
GRRRRR

OF COURSE IT'D END UP LIKE THIS...
I MEAN, SOMEONE LIKE ME HAS COME AND INTERRUPTED THEIR FUN LITTLE LUNCH PARTY...
Heh...
I knew this would happen!

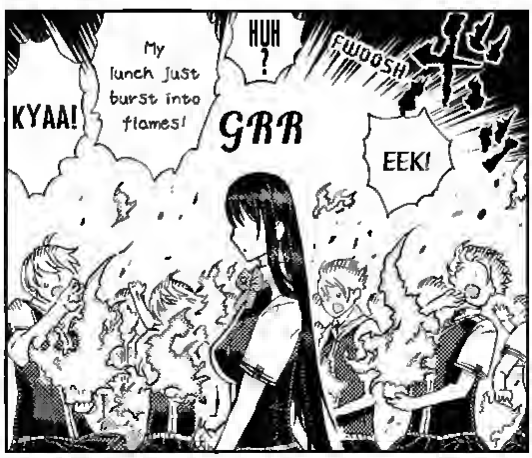
He's an eyesore !!
Who is that !?!
I can't take it any longer!
Princess !!
I'll just say it!
JUMP
TELL US, PRIN-CESS!
Ah
Talk about out of place!
Ah—
Who is he?
Seri-ously!
CHATTER
CHATTER

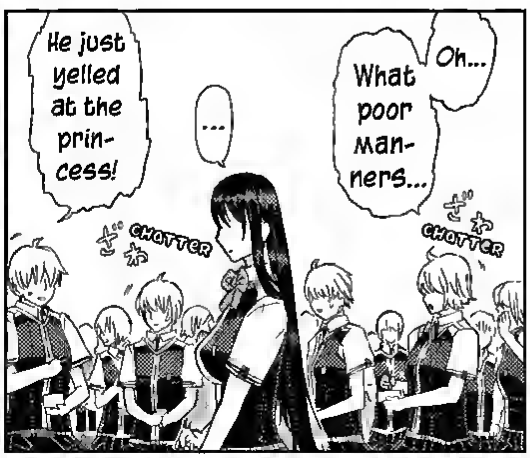

HUSH
.....
I think this sausage came out well, if I do say so myself.
Look, Takamiya.
Open your mouth.

Y-you know, I think I'll just eat in the classroo— mmgh—
Yuh can juss stay here an eat wiff everry— mmgh—
GRIND
GRIND
K...
Kagari...
I—
GRIND GRIND
!
Everyone here was looking forward to eating with you.
Your fan club manages them.
UM, so...
These lunches are by reservation, right?
CHOMP—
I'll finish this first.
?
CHEW CHEW
GULP
I don't want to ignore those rules and—
I'M the one who gets to decide with whom and where I eat.

I'm just considering everyone else here!
If you're going to be like that, then I'm deciding to get out of here!
That—
That's not what I mean!
You...
Don't be selfish.

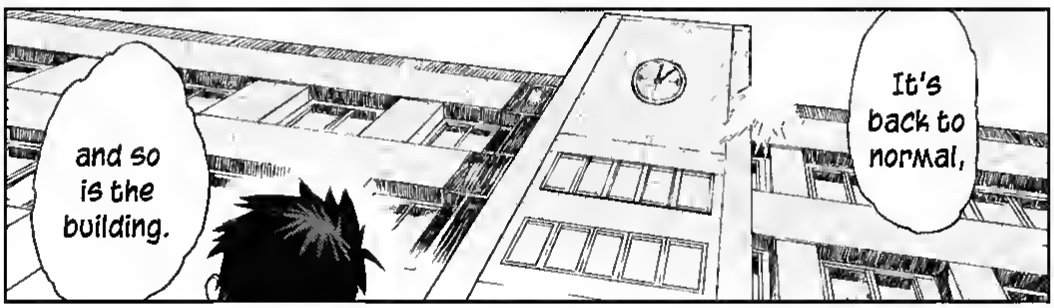
See you later!
DASH

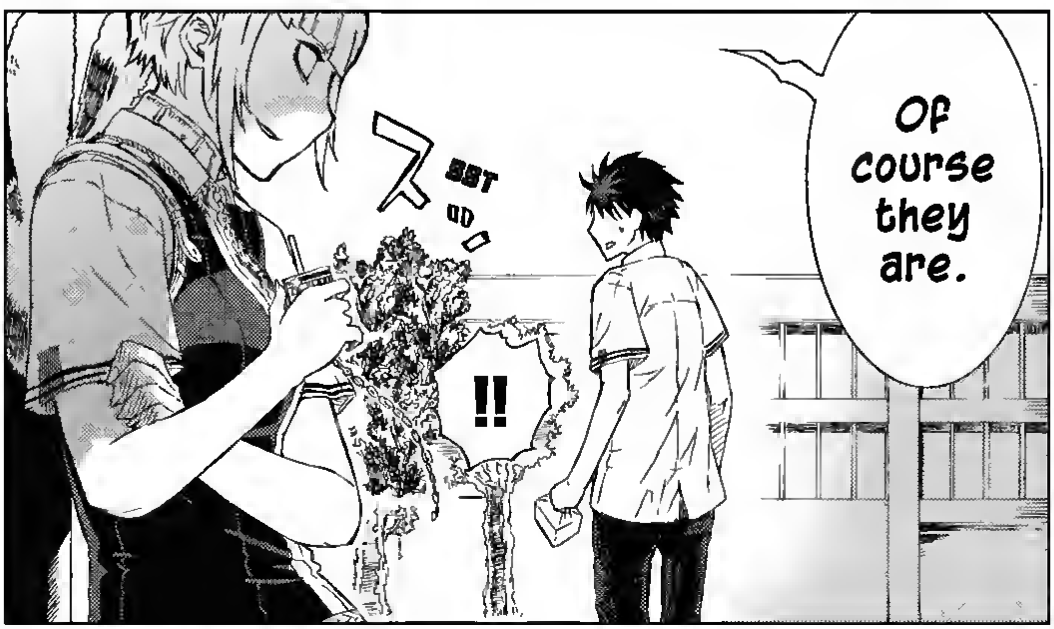

KYAA!
My lunch just burst into flames!
HUH?
GWOOSH
GRR
EEK!


He just yelled at the princess!
...
CHATTER
Oh...
What poor manners...
CHATTER

* Sigh *
ALREADY REGRETTING HIS ACTIONS
It's not like Kagari meant anything wrong.
I'm just terrible...
UU
GH
Wait a second, the courtyard...
HM?

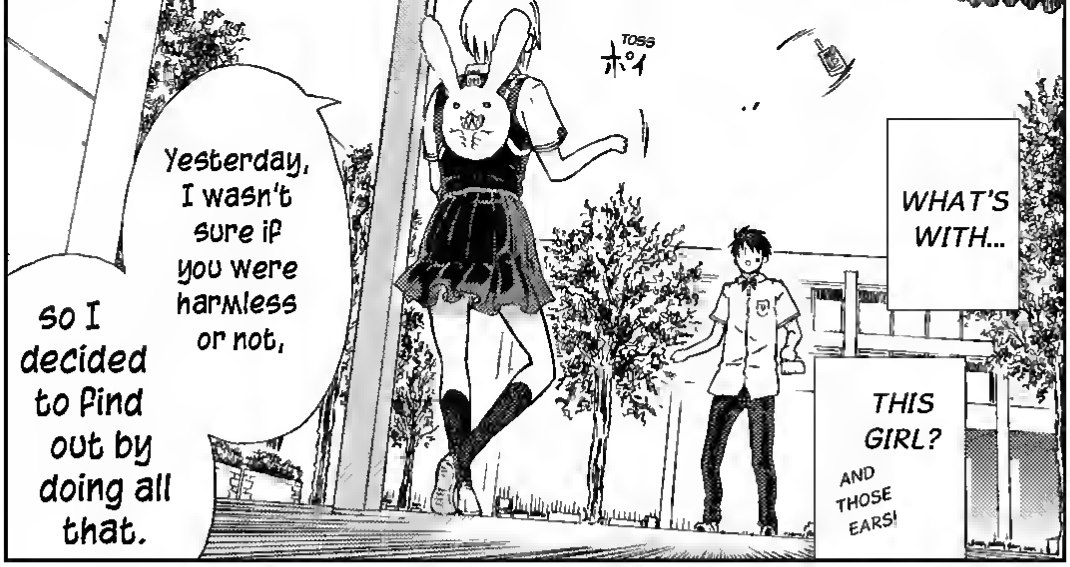
Just yesterday,
that school building fell here... didn't it?
What's going on?
...


and so is the building.
It's back to normal,


BBT
QD
!!
Of course they are.

That was illusory magic.
SLUURP

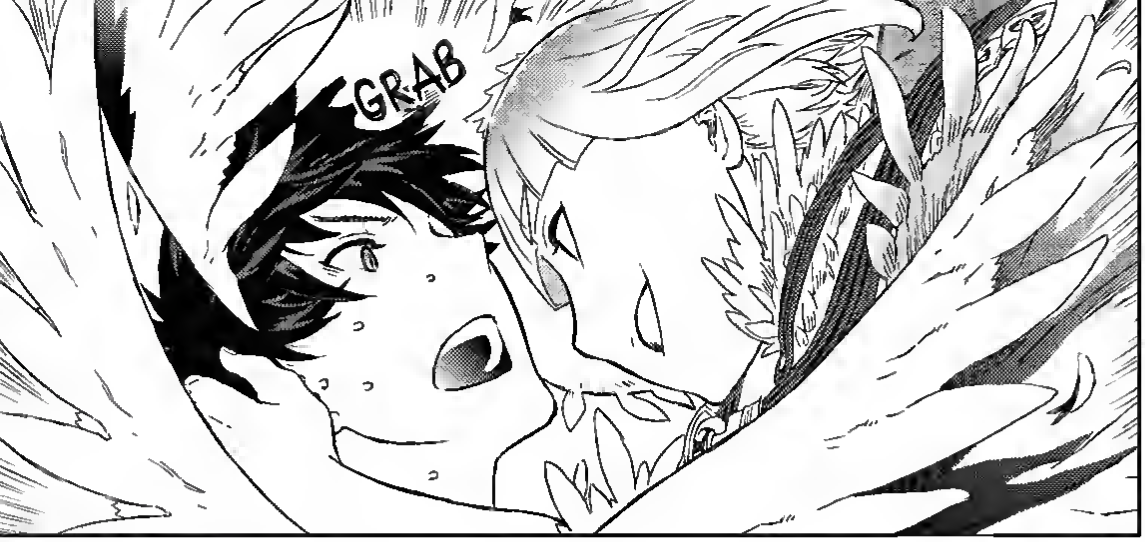
Ah—

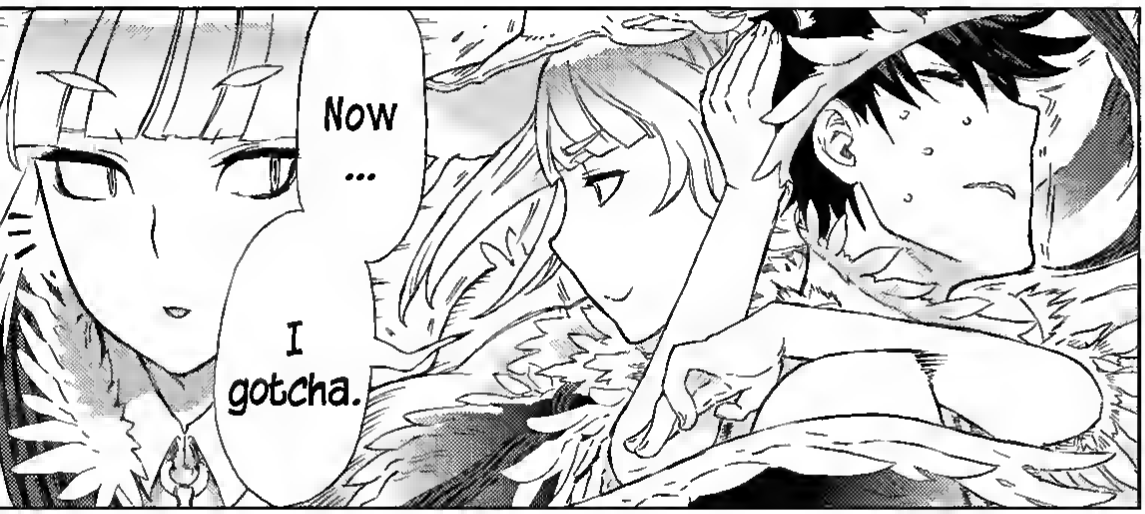

TOSS
Yesterday, I wasn't sure if you were harmless or not,
so I decided to find out by doing all that.
WHAT'S WITH...
THIS GIRL?
AND THOSE EARS!

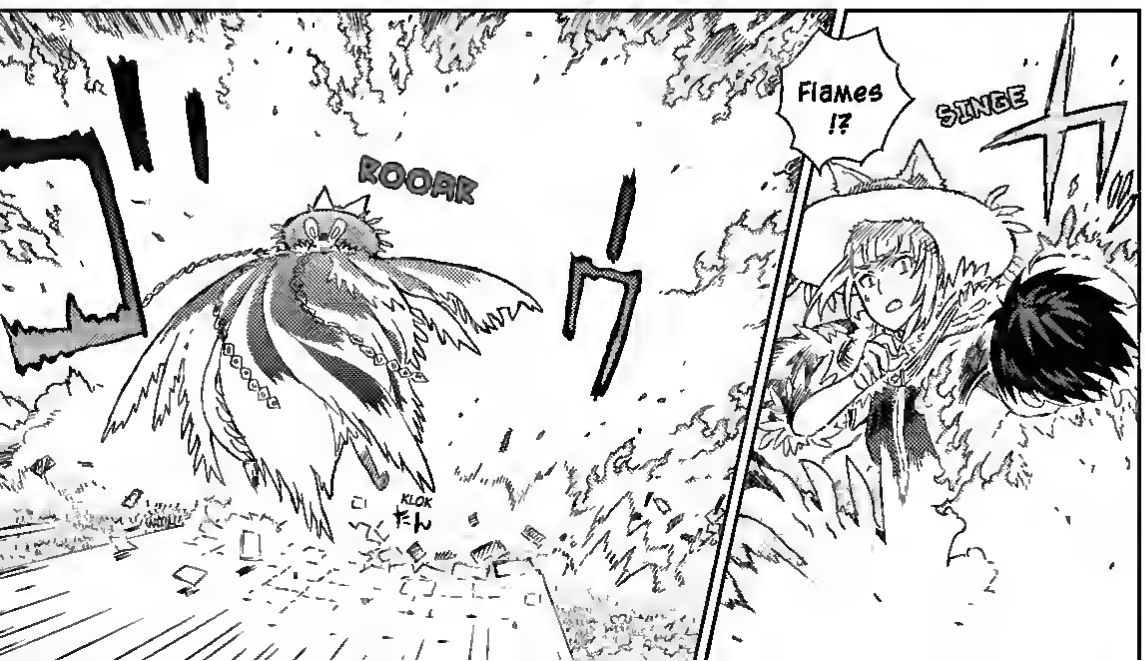
SHE TALKING ABOUT?
And now I know you are, so I can face you in person like this.
CLANG
WHAT IS...
TRASH

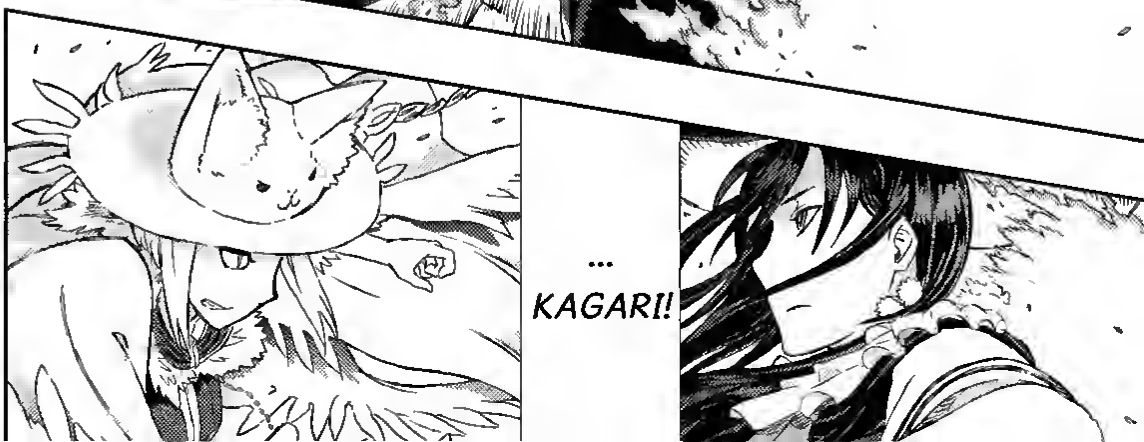
NO...
I'D RATHER NOT KNOW.
I'll cut to the chase.

I'M here for you.
BAM
I, the great Tower Witch, Tanpopo Kuraishi!

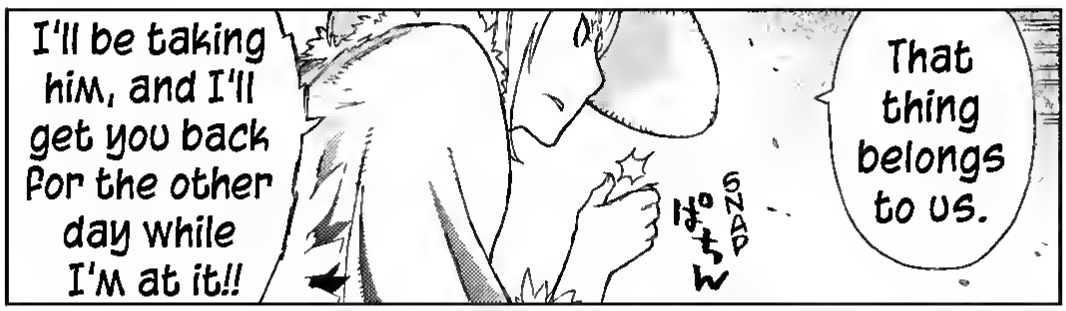

GRAB

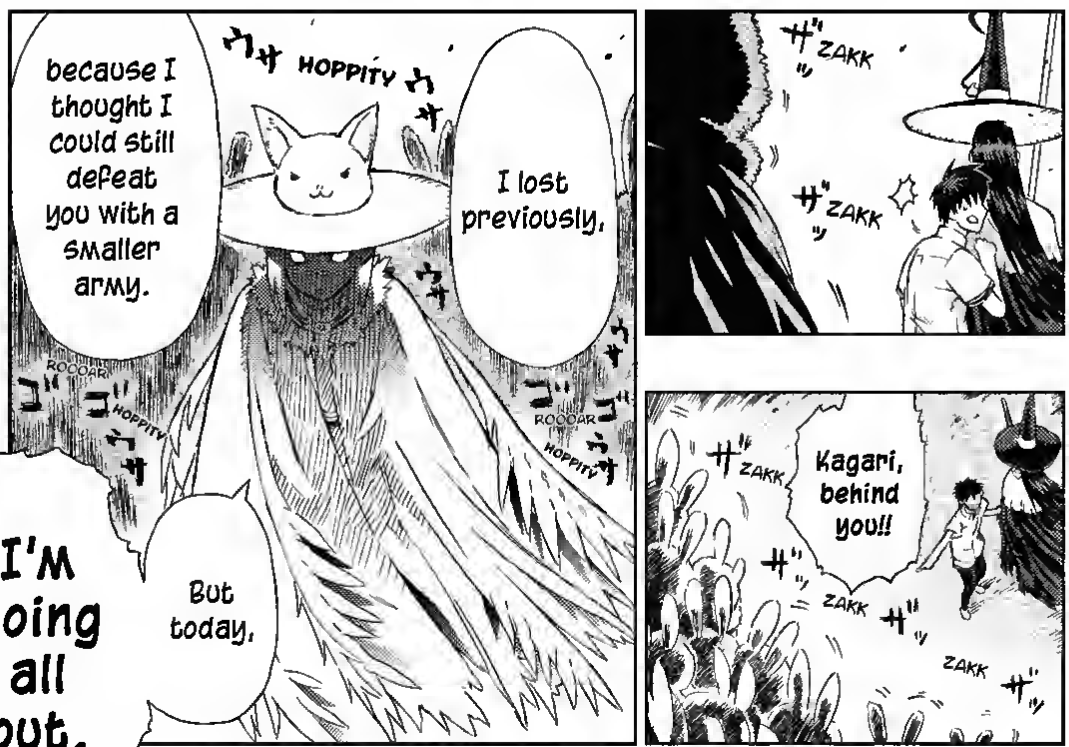

Now ...
I gotcha.

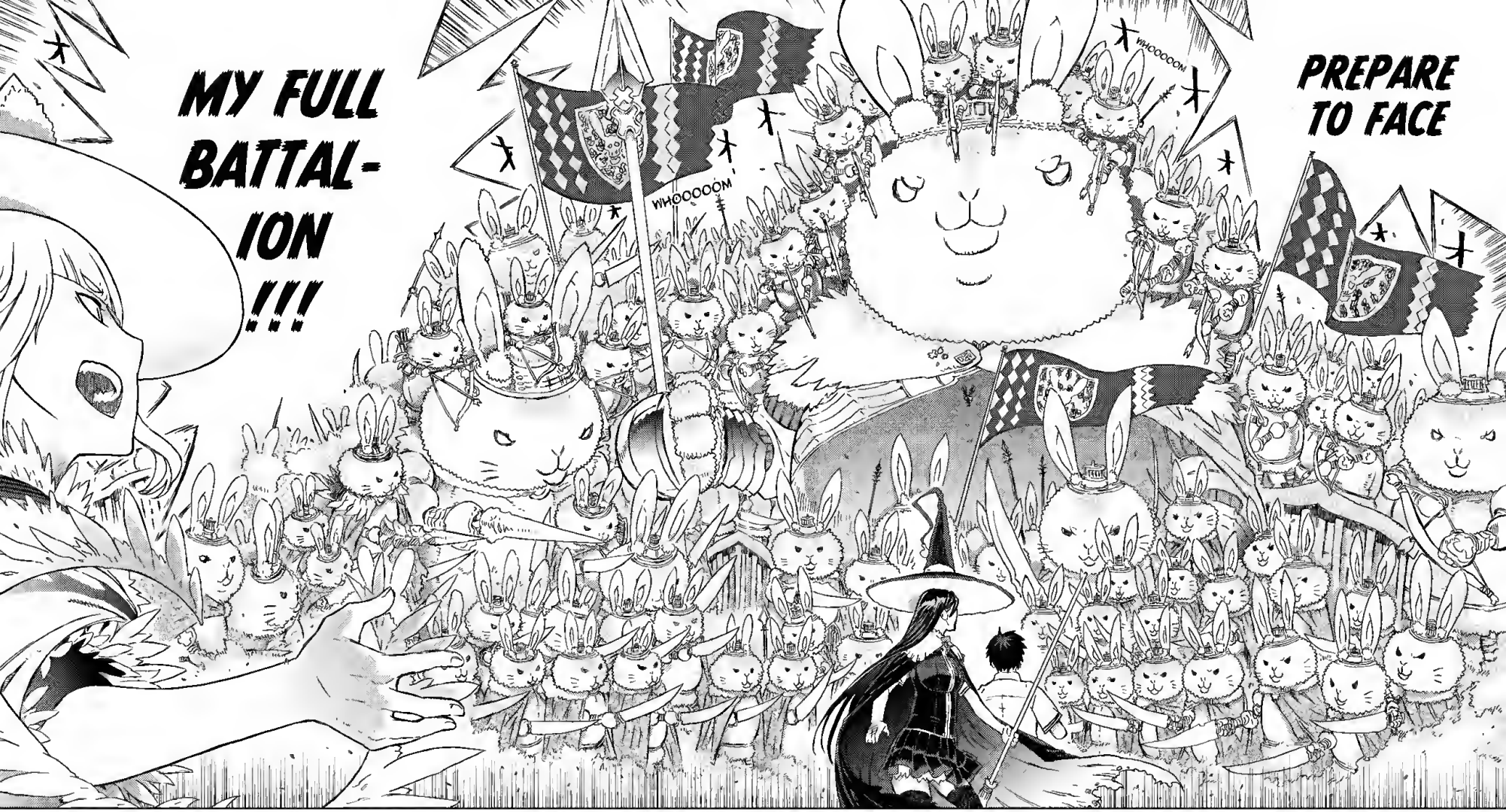

ROOAR
KLOK
Flames !?
SINGE


...
KAGARI!

...
I thought you'd show up,
Fire Witch.


That thing belongs to us.
SNAP
I'll be taking him, and I'll get you back for the other day while I'M at it!!


because I thought I could still defeat you with a smaller army.
HOPPITY
I lost previously,
ROOOAR
HOPPITY
ROOOAR
HOPPITY
But today,
I'M going all out.
ZAKK
ZAKK
ZAKK
Kagari, behind you!!
ZAKK
ZAKK



ドドド

WHOOOOOM
PREPARE TO FACE

getting skewered together !!
You two have fun ...

MY FULL BATTAL-ION !!!
WHOOOOOM

BA-BA-BA
BOOOOM

IT'S DARK...
DRIP
ぴちゃ
WHAT HAPPENED?
...
OW... DID I FALL?
HM? THERE'S SOMETHING ON MY CHEEK.
A DROP OF WATER?
Are you...
all right?
HUH?
IT'S...
BLOOD.

You're not hurt...
are you?

K...
KAGARI!

Are you
getting mad again?
Why would you do this for me, Kagari ?!
Why...
Why are you doing this?!
It's so strange.
You're okay, Takamiya,
so why are you upset?
What?
Are you crying?
WHY PROTECT ME WITH YOUR BODY?
HOW CAN YOU STILL BE FOCUSED ON NO ONE BUT ME?!
WHY?!

AT HER MISSION.
SHE'S LOOKING STRAIGHT AHEAD
I RAN AWAY.
BUT WHEN I SAW HER EYES,
YES-TERDAY, TODAY...
I DIDN'T LISTEN TO WHAT SHE TOLD ME.
AND BECAUSE I DIDN'T BELIEVE HER, SHE ENDED UP BEING HURT.
That's it...
I...
I shouldn't be getting upset ...

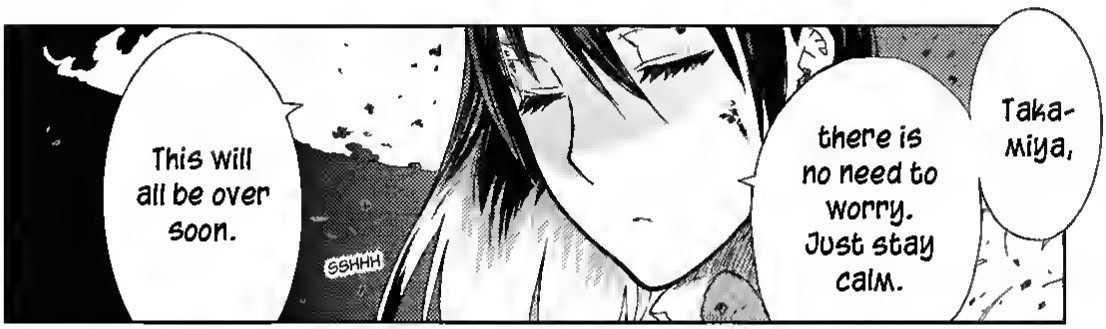
No matter what happens,
I need to believe in you, Kagari!

...
I need to call an ambulance!!
AM-BU-LANCE!
You need medical attention!
This isn't the time for that!!
No!!
Wait! Ah—
...Er

that means...
You won't run away at lunch tomorrow?
So,

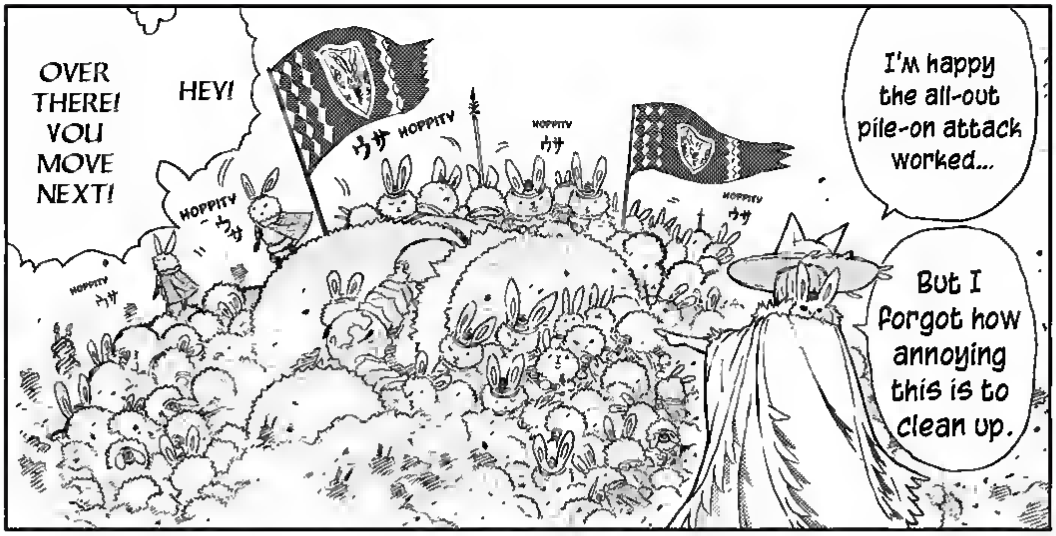
Uh... huh.
In simple terms... I suppose so.
..... What?!

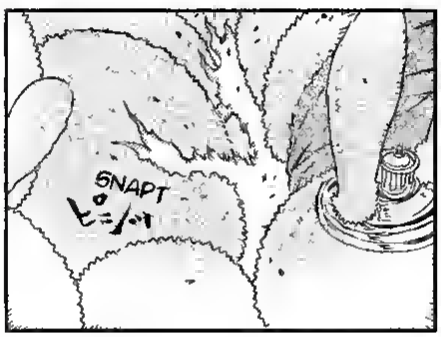
I'm...
It's okay.
Made of fire.
We have to do something!
fluster fluster
No, wait !!
If we don't stop your bleed-ing soon, you'll be in trouble!
You need help right now !!


This will all be over soon.
SSHHH
there is no need to worry. Just stay calm.
Taka-miya,

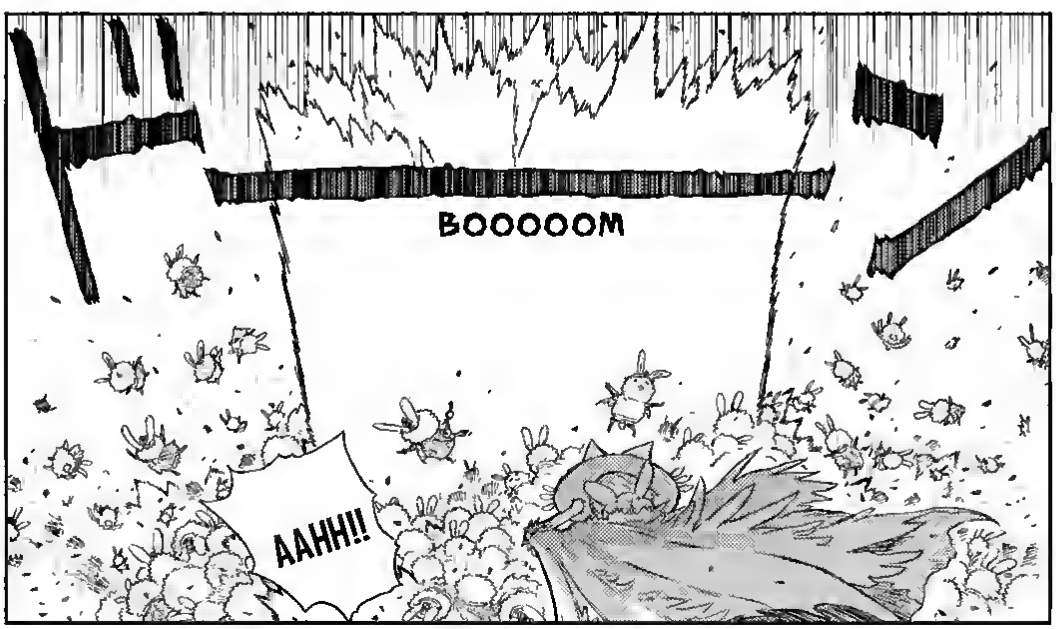
...
And then will you be okay?

BWOOSH
ボッ
Close your eyes.


OVER THERE! YOU MOVE NEXT!
HEY!
HOPPITY
I'M happy the all-out pile-on attack worked...
But I forgot how annoying this is to clean up.


SNAP!

I know they said "dead or alive," but I hope those two can be ID'ed.


BOOOOOM
AAHH!!

ZOOM
ACK!
!?!!

Now you've done it,
furry-eared girl.

BOOM

...
Wh—

Burn into ash.
Plan B !!!
Crap!

FWOOOM
※PLAN B: STRATEGIC RETREAT
I'LL GET YOU SOME DAY !!
SPRING

FWOOOM

※PLAN B:
STRATEGIC
RETREAT
I'LL GET YOU SOME DAY !!
SPRING

HUH?!
Mmh ?
You can open your eyes now.
I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND GIRLS!
YOU'RE BACK TO NORMAL?!
FLUTTER
DING DOONG DING DING
TIME FOR HOMEROOM!
THE NEXT DAY.
...
I'm sorry about lunch... Thanks for the sausage...
STROLL
TRANS-FER STU-DENTS ?!
?!
ビクッ
JWRK
Some new classmates will be joining you starting today.
Good morning, class.

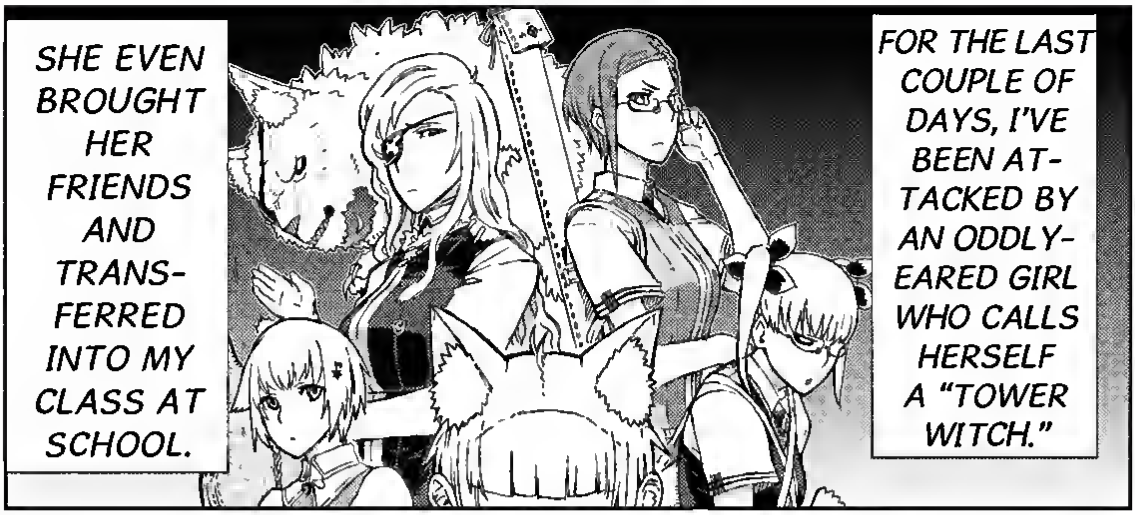
HOW'D I KNOW IT'D BE HER... AND SHE BROUGHT FRIENDS!!

AND THEY'RE ALL SKETCHY!!!

OH, NO...

I don't like where this is going...
Taka-Miya.
I assume you already realize this, but...
GRR
CLAK
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
all five of those girls
are witch-es.

Witchcraft Works


SHE EVEN BROUGHT HER FRIENDS AND TRANS-FERRED INTO MY CLASS AT SCHOOL.
FOR THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS, I'VE BEEN AT-TACKED BY AN ODDLY-EARED GIRL WHO CALLS HERSELF A "TOWER WITCH."

SHE'S BEAUTIFUL, STYLISH, SMART... SHE'S THE MOST POPULAR GIRL AT SCHOOL, SHE'S MY CLASSMATE... AND A WITCH.
THIS IS KAGARI. SHE SAVED ME FROM THOSE ATTACKS.

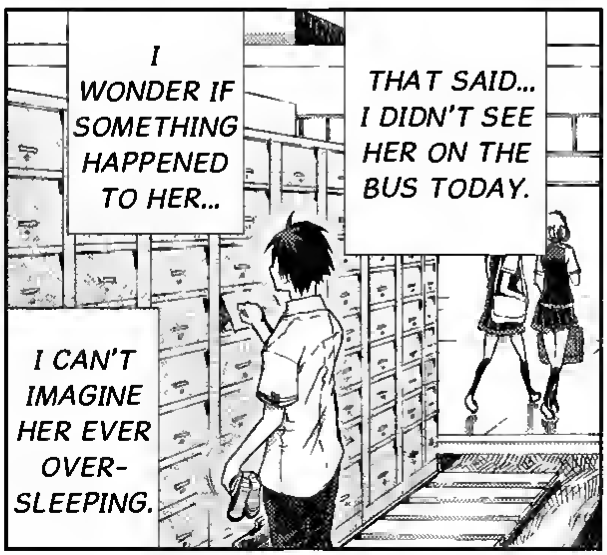
A REGULAR KID WHO'S BASICALLY HAD TO SIT BACK AND WATCH AS I'VE BEEN ATTACKED AND RESCUED.
THEN THERE'S ME— HONOKA TAKAMIYA.

CHAPTER 3 Takamiya and the Ivory Quintet

THAT'S RIGHT.
I'VE SOMEHOW BEEN DRAGGED INTO THIS SITUA-TION...
BUT WHAT BOTHERS ME MOST IS THAT I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.

I KEEP ON ASKING HER, BUT EACH TIME, ALL SHE SAYS IS "SOME DAY"... TODAY I'LL GET HER, THOUGH!
MORNING!
TODAY WILL BE THE DAY I GET KAGARI TO TELL ME!
PIPIPI

M-MAYBE SHE'S BEING ATTACKED BY THAT "TOWER WITCH"!
MAYBE I SHOULD LOOK FOR HER IF SHE'S NOT IN CLASS.
RATTLE

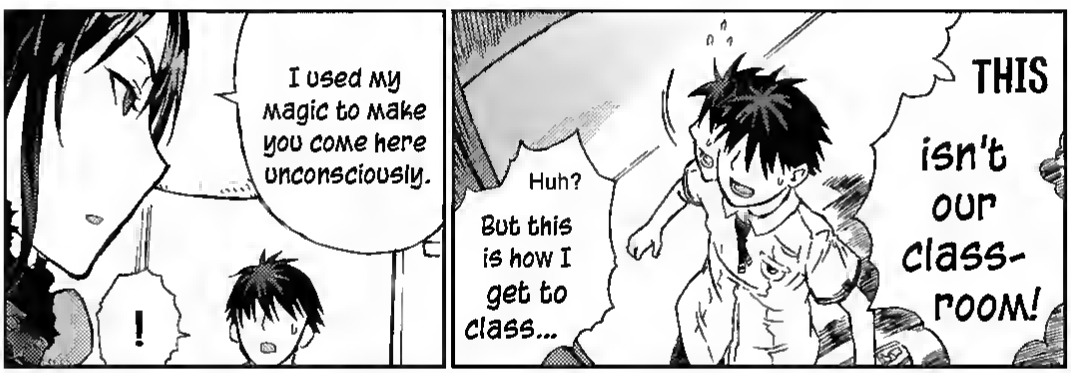

I WONDER IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO HER...
THAT SAID... I DIDN'T SEE HER ON THE BUS TODAY.
I CAN'T IMAGINE HER EVER OVER-SLEEPING.

Oh.
Good morning,
Takamiya.
WHAAAT ?!
MMF
DO WHAT YOU MUST
GUN
FINE CRAFTWORKS

Oh.
Guh♪
Good morn-ing,
Taka-miya.

100 POINTS
1 POINT
MMF
DO WHAT YOU MUST
WHAAAT ?!

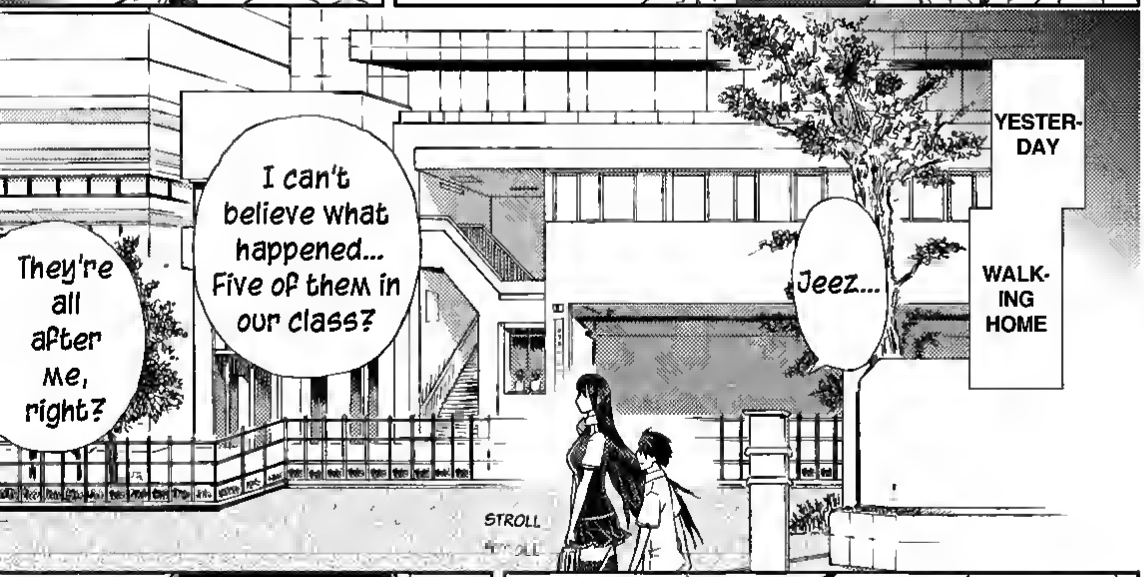
Torture Studies
KAGARI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE CLASSROOM ?!
K...
Wait a sec-ond—
ズギャーン
WHOOMP


I used my magic to make you come here unconsciously.
!
Huh?
But this is how I get to class...
THIS isn't our class-room!

MMH !
SHAKE SHAKE
Wh...
What
is this?
We are in the club annex.

Isn't it obvi-ous?
A witch hunt.

AWFUL?
...
You said you'd feel AWFUL, after all.
Oh?!


They're all after me, right?
I can't believe what happened... Five of them in our class?
YESTER-DAY
WALK-ING HOME
Jeez...
STROLL

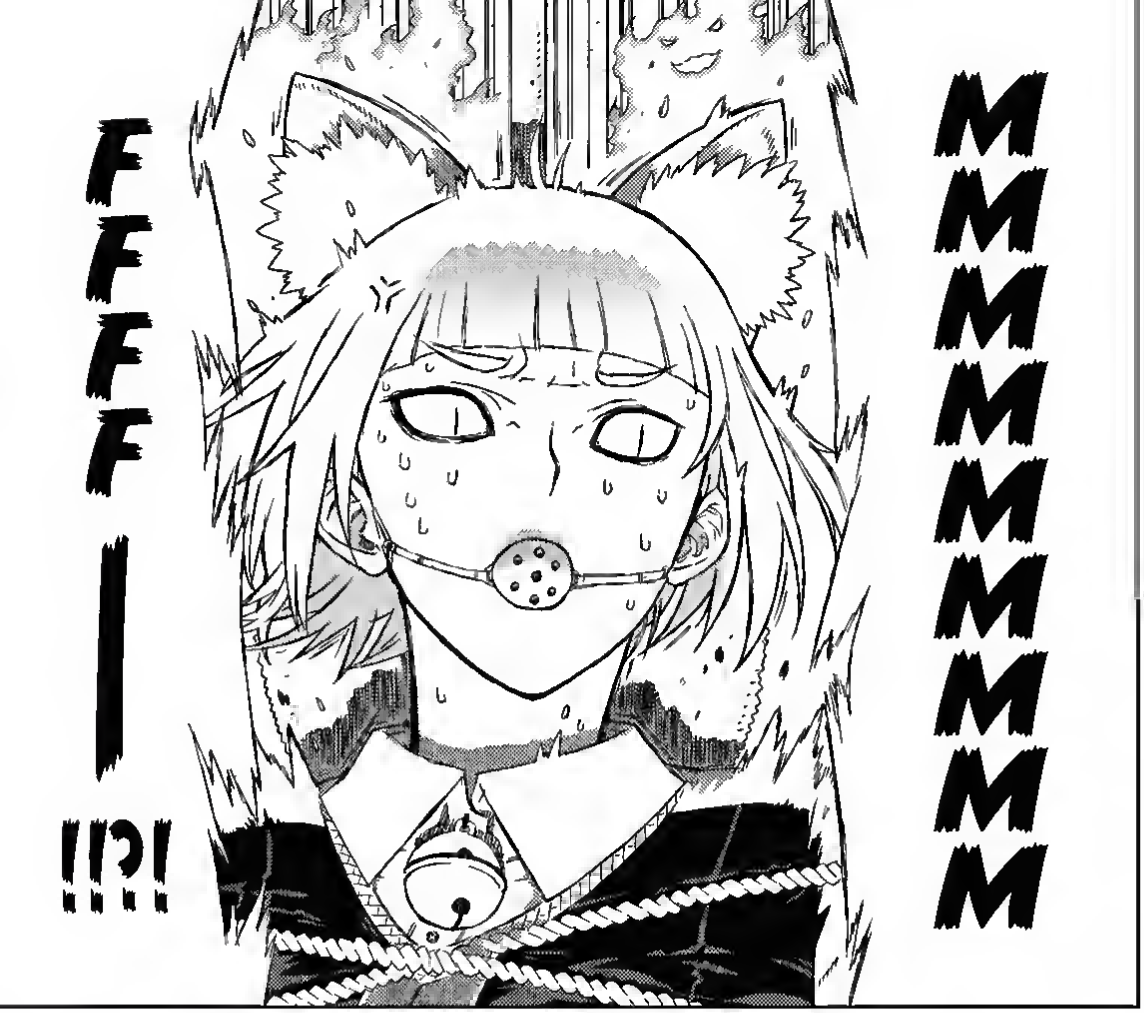
Oh?
...
If you ended up hurt again.
I'd feel awful

So if those five are around,
you'd feel AWFUL ...
HMPH

I GUESS I DID SAY THAT.
SHIVER
ず~~~~~ん
...
YEAH.

Um...
Kagari ...

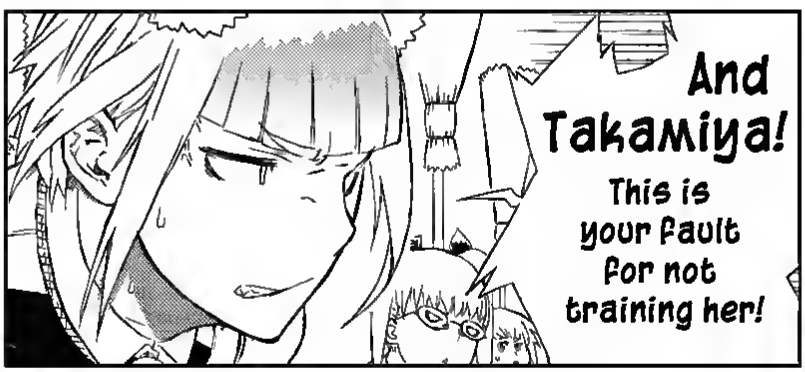
But it took longer than I expected when the last one got away.
So I thought she'd show up if I tortured these four here...
I wanted to come to school with you,
ぽい
TOSS


FFFF
!?!
MMMMMMMMM

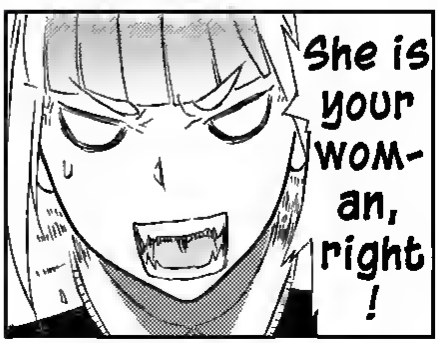
And the fire, too...
Why don't you free their mouths?
I think they want to say something.
Hey,
...

THAT'S RIGHT.
I'D FOR-GOTTEN ABOUT THESE GIRLS.
WHOA !!
THAT SURPRISED ME!
SNAP

Hey, you idiot!
POP
Bleh!
What the hell are you doing!?
Attacking us out of nowhere!?
THAT'S RIGHT!
We were just trying to go to school in peace!!


And Takamiya!
This is your fault for not training her!

WOW ...
TALK ABOUT NOT KNOWING YOUR PLACE.


She is your WOM-an, right!

Train-ing?
SHAKE!
BOOM!

KAGARI IS JUST MY CLASSMATE...
WE'RE NOT LIKE THAT!
TWITCH
WH-WH-WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT!
W...
WUH ...?!

AAHH!! NO!!!
Can I burn that thing?
It's annoying.
Taka-Miya?
GRR

Why are you going after me?
It's Kurai-shi!!
Miss. Crisis?
Or was it Crazy?
UM...
So...

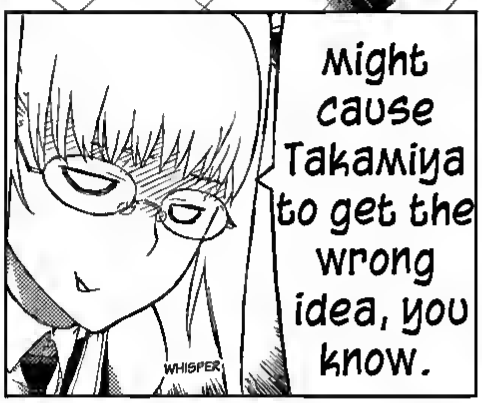
...
Did I...
I...
do something
to upset you?
don't understand why everyone is out to get me.
ACK!
So that woman hasn't told you?
One of the people responsible for hiding you all this time.
...
I guess she wouldn't, though.
She is a WORKSHOP WITCH, after all.

We don't hold any grudge against you.
We just want your body.

My ...
body ?

ちら、
GLANCE
...

Yes. We want...
your white stuff.

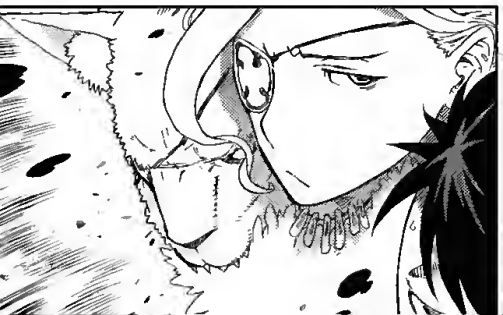


※ HE COMPLETELY HAS THE WRONG IDEA.

You have only captured four out of the five of us.
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
Huh?
SCOUT
BLURP

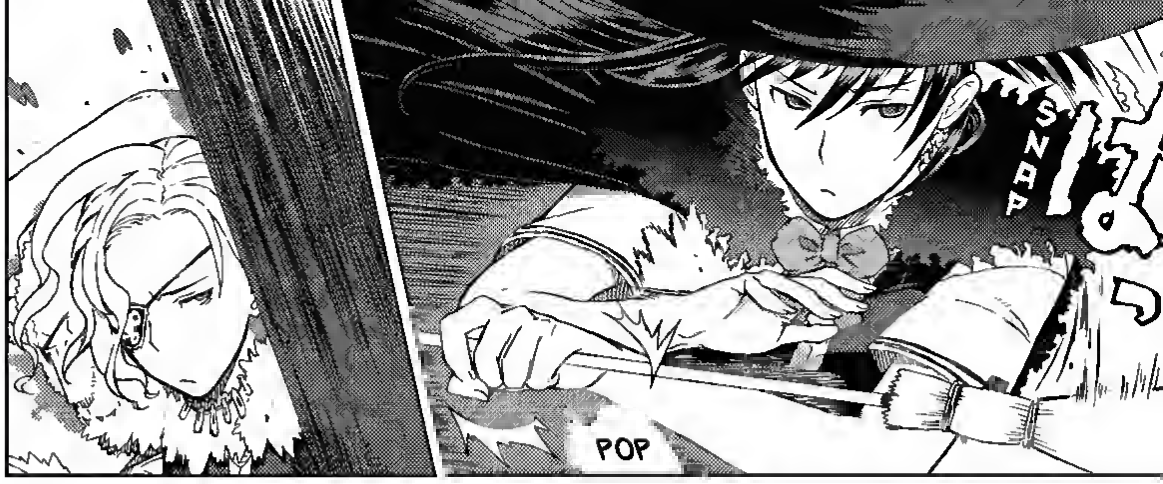
TUG

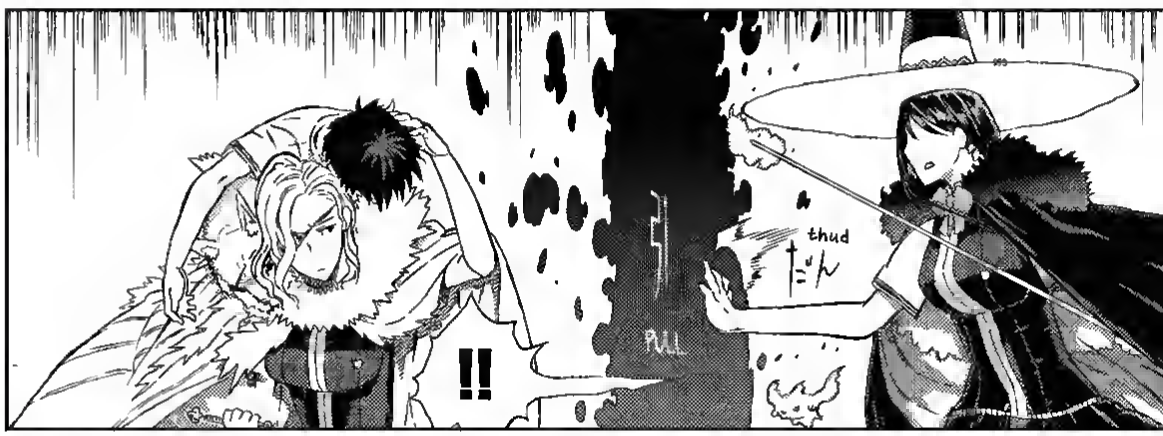
YANK



YANK

TUG
ヒュー


SNAP
POP


PULL
thud
!!

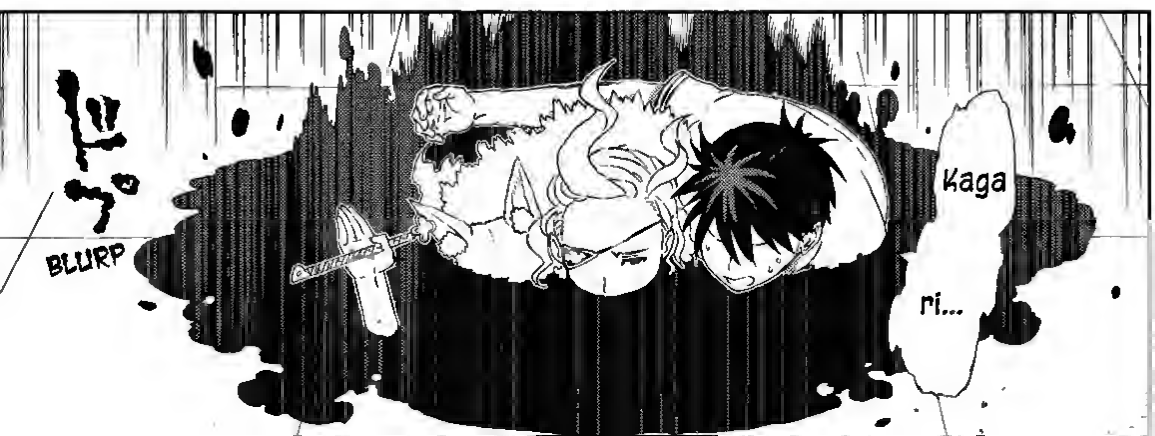
TWRR
PULL

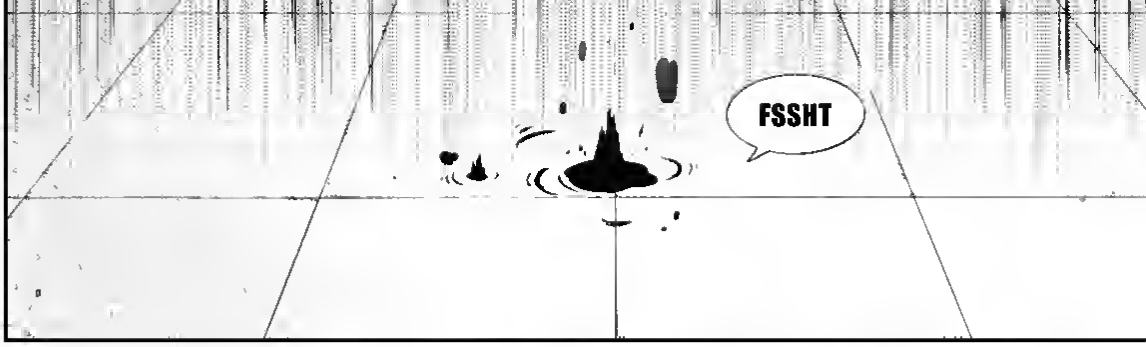
POP
POP
POP
POP

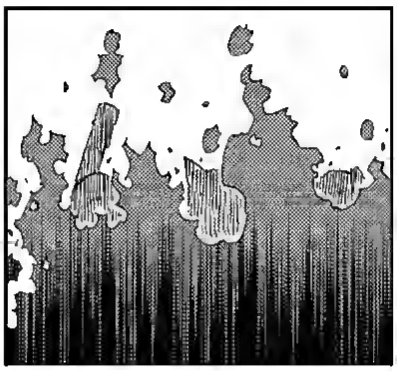
トン
THUMP
シュッ
SHHT
べちゃ
Ssplat
Ooh ♪

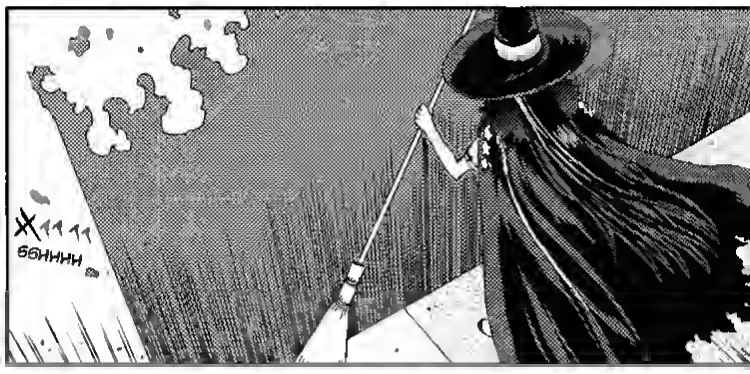
You take care of the woman!

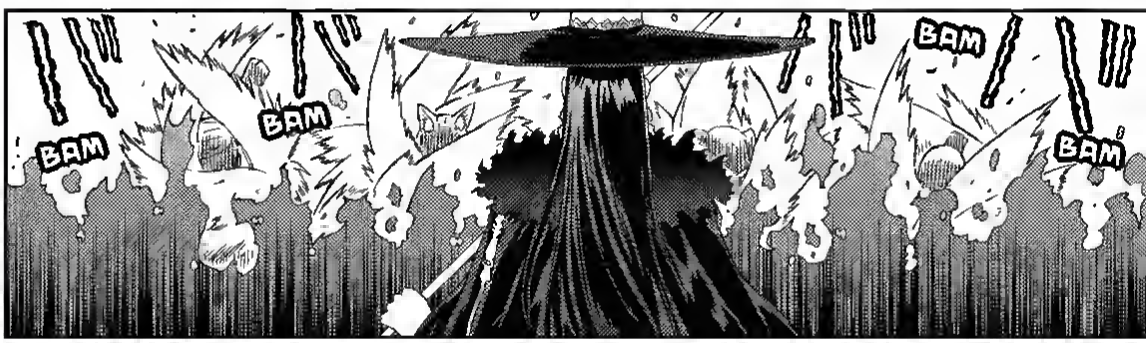
Ta-kami-ya!


ブッ
BLURP
Kaga
ri...


FSSHT



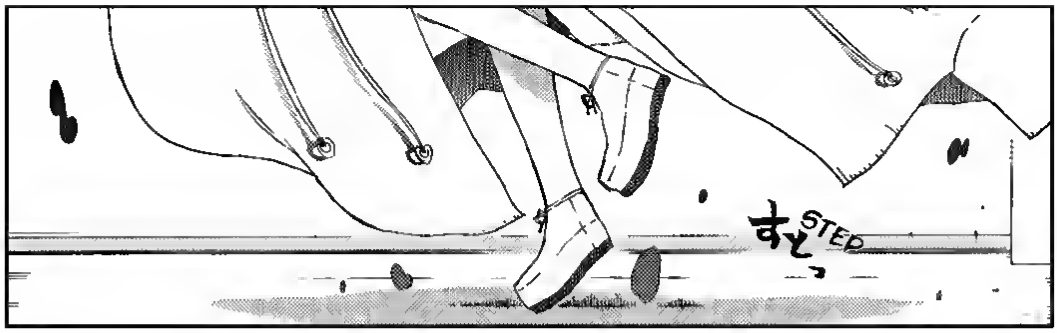

X11 11
BBHHHH


BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM

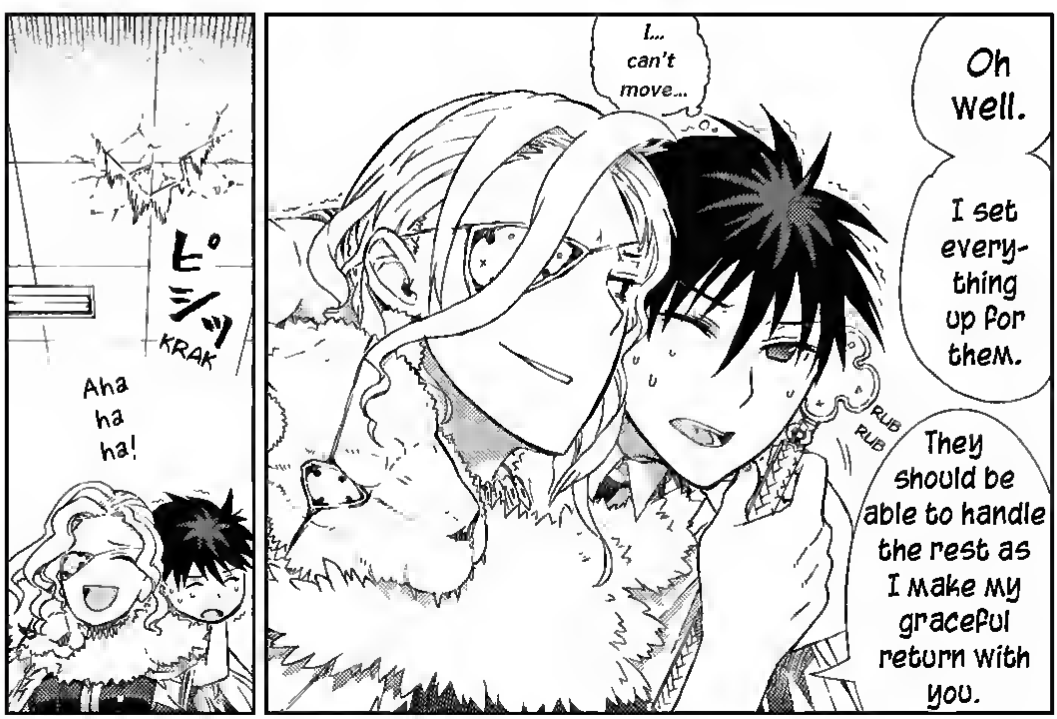
SHINK

ZAKK
First, you need to get through us.

Fire Witch !!!
...


STEP

One hell of a surprise.
My goodness.
I can't believe how fast those four got themselves captured.


I... can't move...
Oh well.
I set everything up for them.
They should be able to handle the rest as I make my graceful return with you.
KRAK
Aha ha ha!

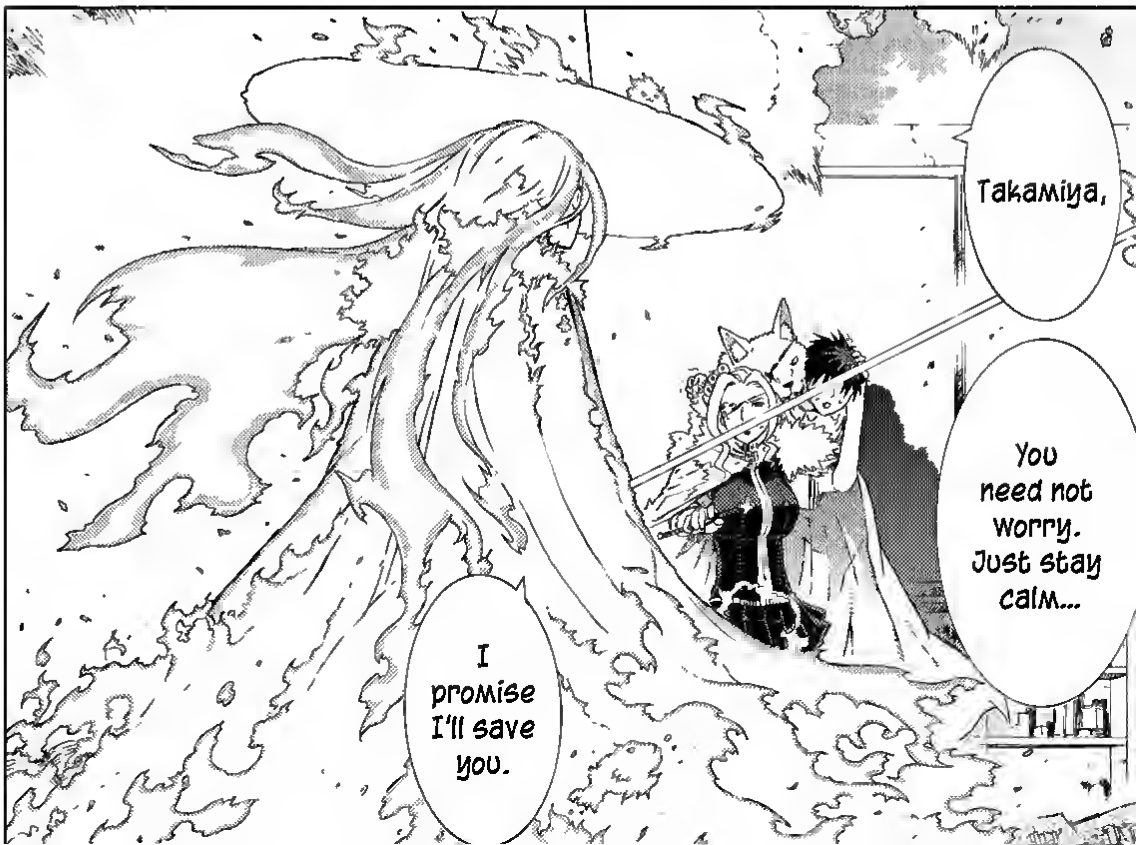
KABOOOM
KYAAH !!

...WHAT ?!
BAM

Wait, wait!
Wait.
No, no no!!!
What... are you Mario with a Super Star?
ZAKK
ZAKK
DON'T GET ANY CLOSER!!
STOP...

POUNCE
GRR
Or his head gets bitten off!

Don't... worry about me.
K... Kagari!
Keep yer mouth shut
!!

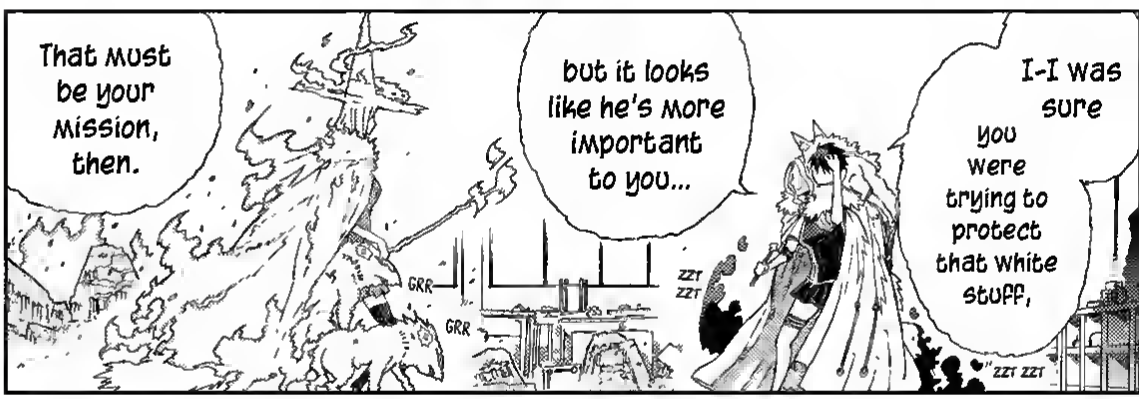

Takamiya,
You need not worry. Just stay calm...
I promise I'll save you.

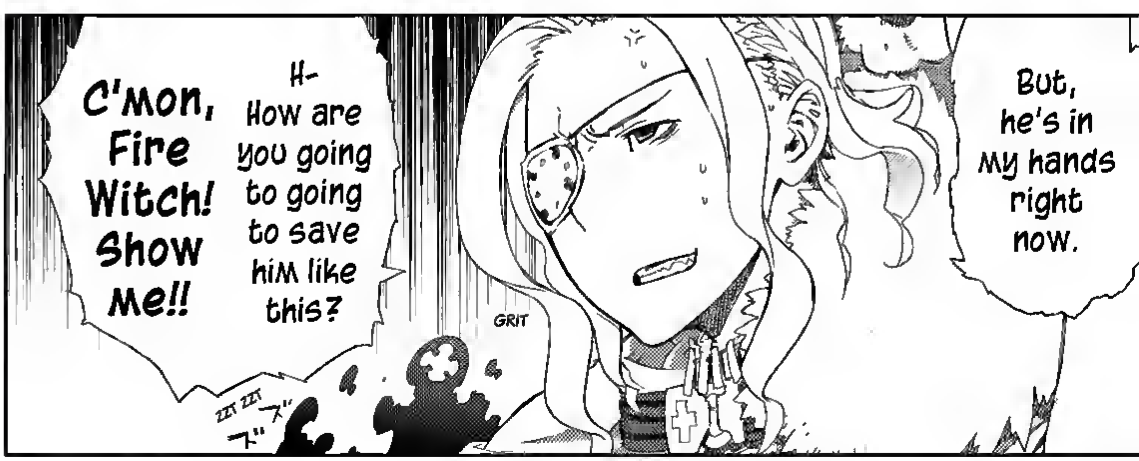
Now, how should I cook her?
It might be fun to start by setting that perm on fire.
ズズズ

...

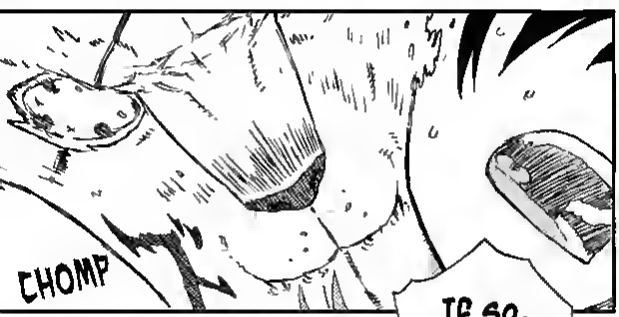
You seem to be awfully calm, Fire Witch.
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP

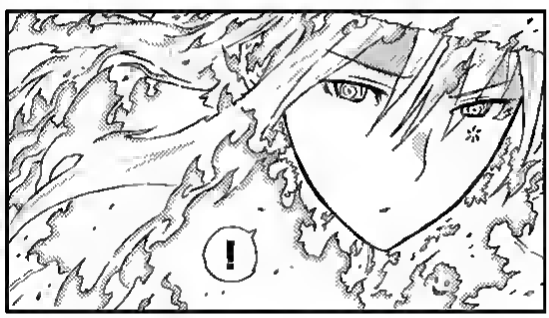
Hah!
M-maybe something a little less violent, please?
SLUMP


That must be your mission, then.
GRR
GRR
but it looks like he's more important to you...
ZZT ZZT
I-I was sure you were trying to protect that white stuff,
ZZT ZZT


C'Mon, Fire Witch! Show Me!!
H- How are you going to going to save him like this?
ZZT ZZT
GRIT
But, he's in my hands right now.

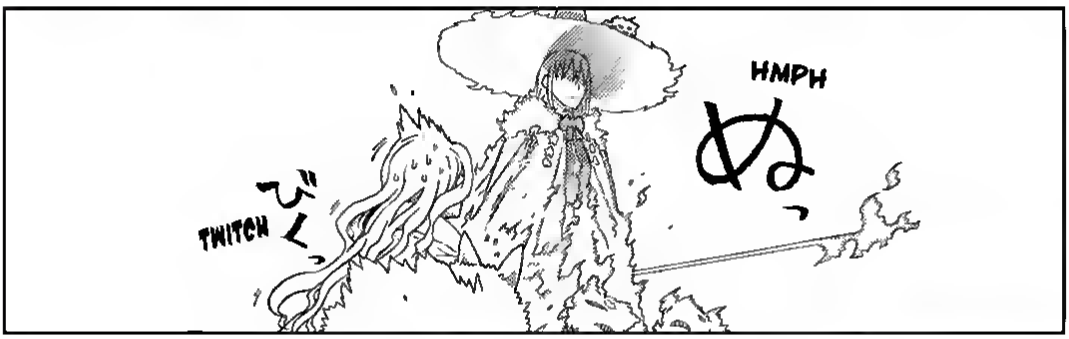
Do you think I'll be too afraid of you to kill him?!
GRR
TH-THUMP TH-THUMP

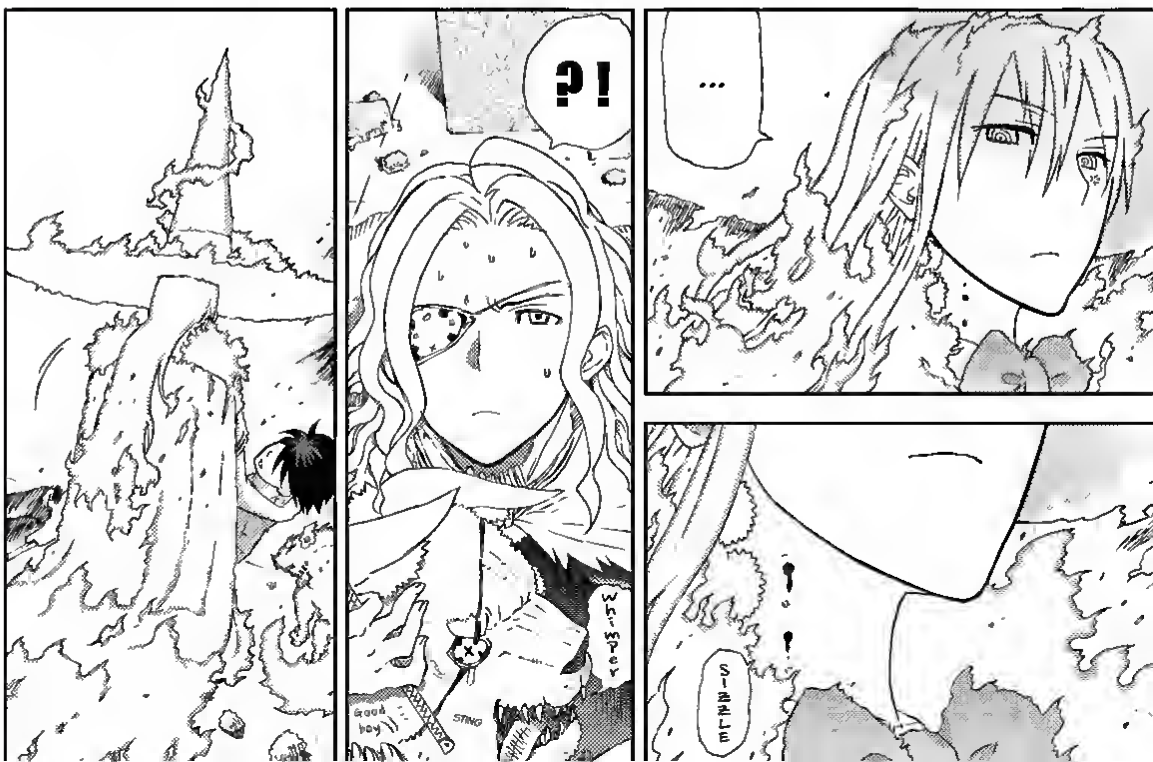

CHOMP

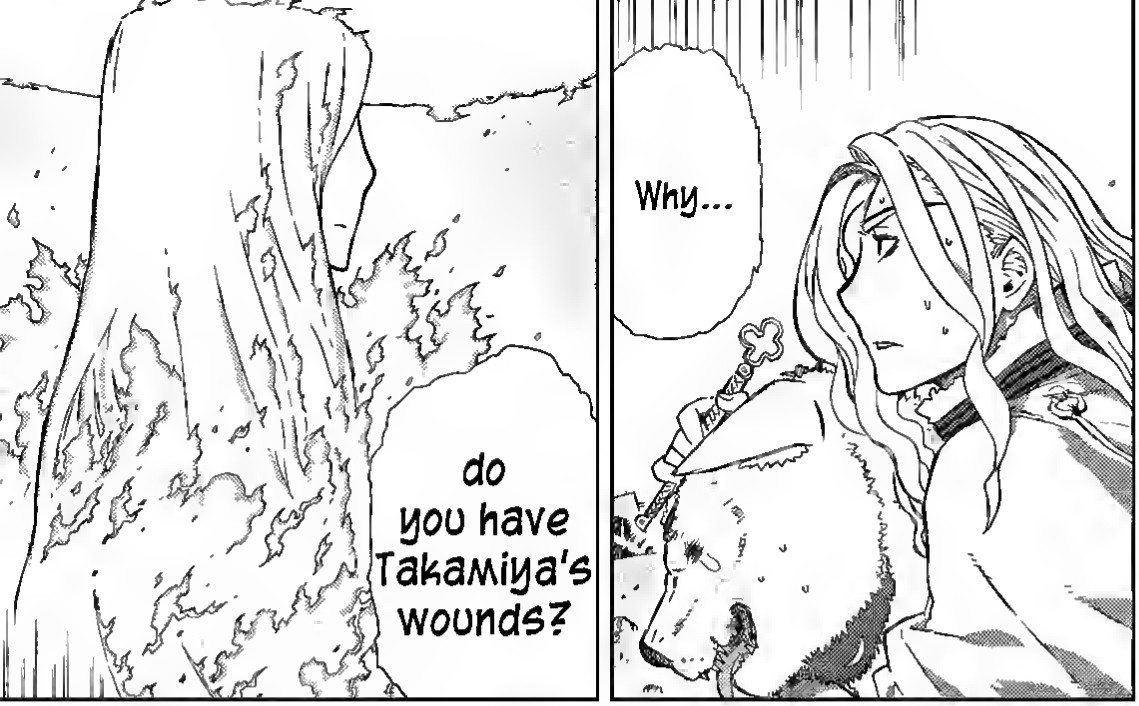

!

If so, you're dead wr—
FIRE
ROAR
Aahh !!

WH-
THUD
HE'S ON FIRE ?!
SSHH
Ugh
ゴォオオ
ROAR
GASP
WHAT ?!

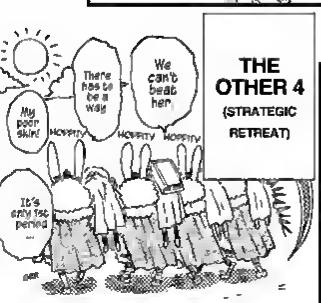

HMPH
TWITCH


?!
...
Whisper
Good boy!!
STING
SMILE

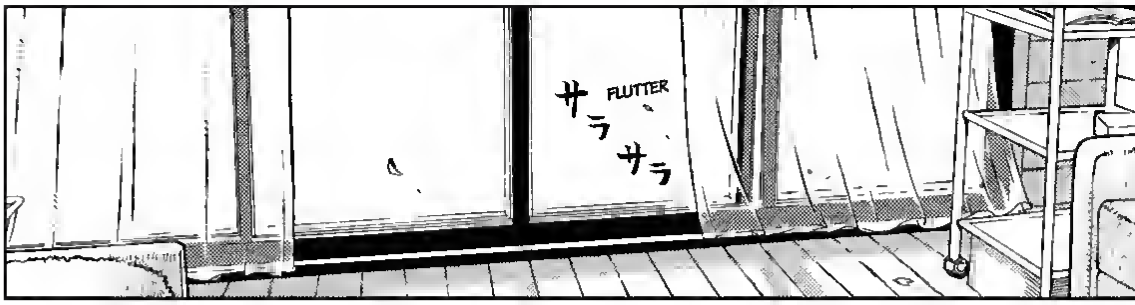

do you have Takamiya's wounds?
Why...

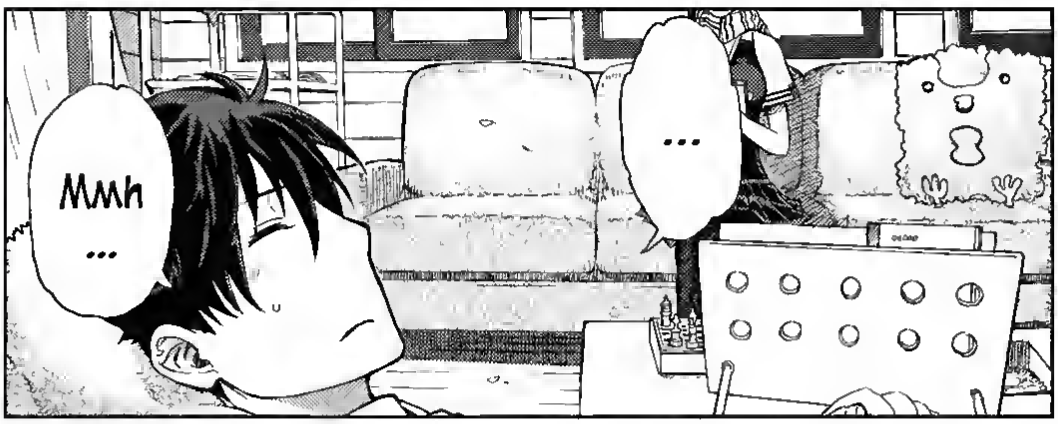
AH!
!!
BAM
SST

!
ドーアッ
BLURP
I'll take my leave here...
for today.


THE OTHER 4 (STRATEGIC RETREAT)
My poor skin!
There has to be a way
We can't beat her
HOPPITY
HOPPITY
HOPPITY
It's only for period...

See you two again.


サラ
FLUTTER

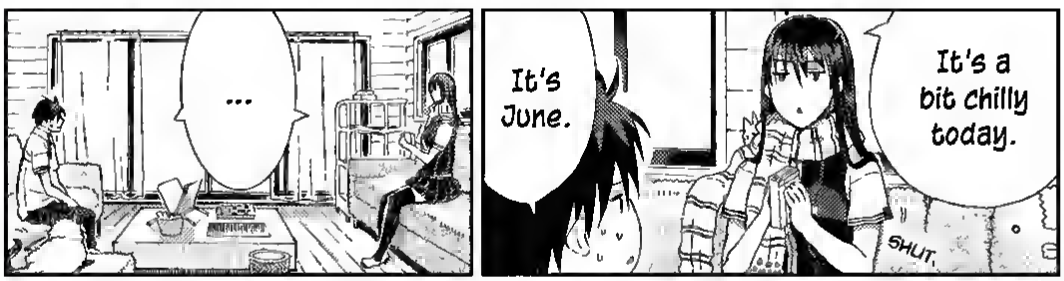

Mmh
...
...

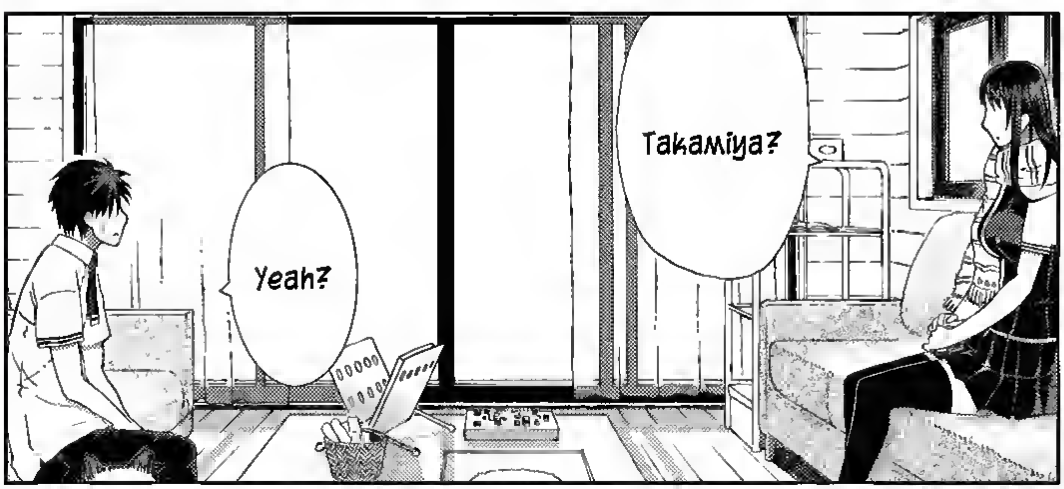
I-I was...
GRR
Ow
SLUMP

I'M... fine.
RUB
RUB

This is Kagari's...
...
I REMEMBER THIS HAPPENING BEFORE.

RUSTLE
モサッ
HOW TO BURN MAN
UM—
WHY ARE YOU WEARING A SCARF?!
Are you up?
Oh, Kagar—


...
It's June.
It's a bit chilly today.
SHUT.


Takamiya?
Yeah?

You know...
My wish
was that you could live your life...
in ignorance.

But,
unless we do something, the witches will keep attacking
and you're starting to figure out what's going on, too.
If I want things to go back to the way they were, I'm going to have to be the one that takes action.

Kagari ...
...

I'll find the mastermind responsible
for turning your life into a mess,
and I'll defeat them!!

Take action?

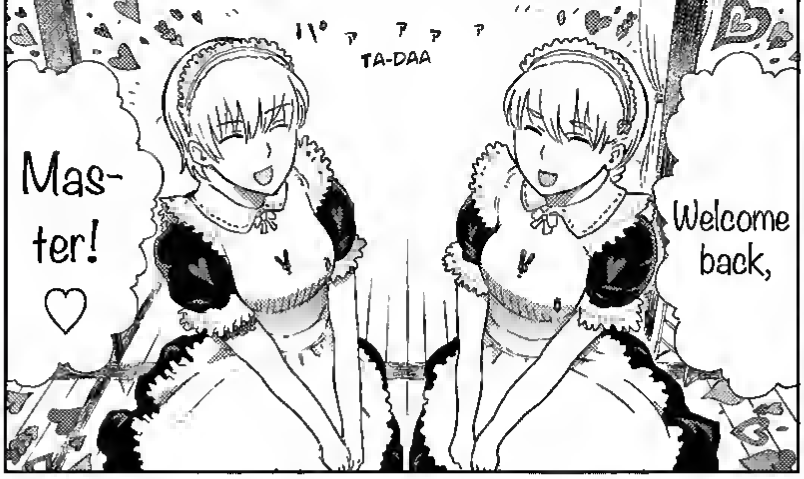
That's a pretty gigantic problem!!
Other than the fact I don't know who that mastermind is.
It should be easy...
HMM
MEOW

AND NOW SHE'S PREPARING TO FIGHT FOR ME.
SHE ALWAYS PROTECTED ME IN SECRET,
I'll be able to find them in no time.
I'm not worried, though.
SO KAGARI WAS KEEPING QUIET FOR MY SAKE.

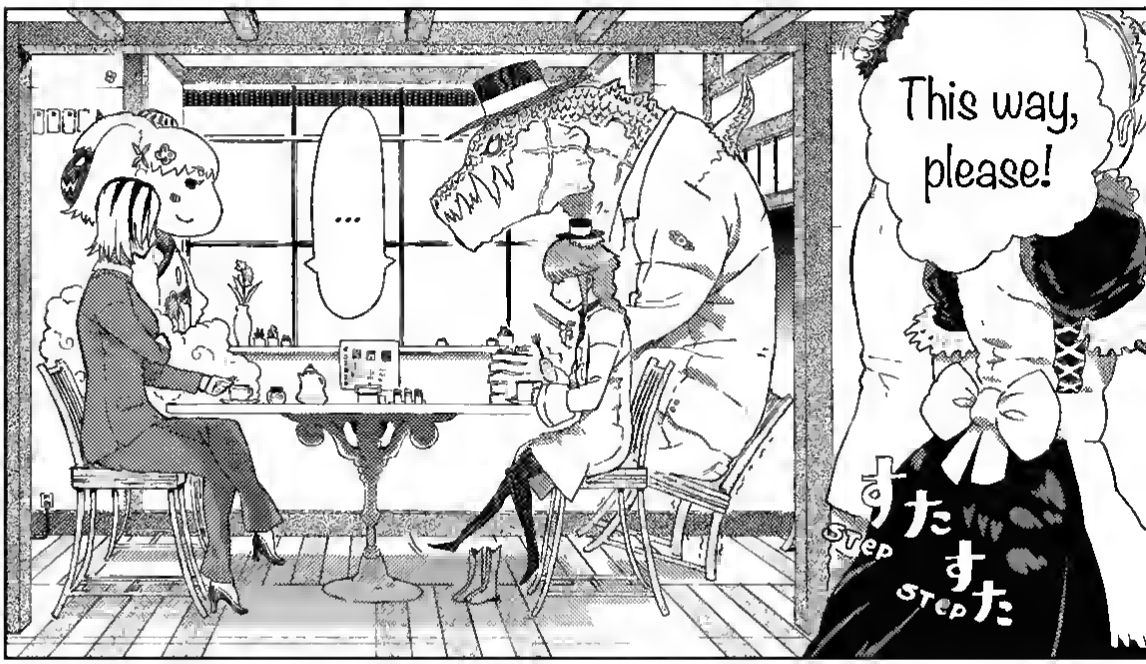
Kagari!
so no need to worry—
Once I do, I'll make quick work of them.
WHAT IS IT THAT I SHOULD DO HERE?
A SCAR CAUSED BY MY WEAK-NESS.
THERE'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T WANT ME TO SEE UNDER THAT SCARF, RIGHT, KAGARI?

It's me they're after.
I want you to tell me—
About the two of us, about those girls!
And I can't stand to watch you get hurt because of that...
I don't want you to fight alone any longer!

There's something I wanted to ask you, too...
Will you teach me magic—
No! Will you take me as your apprentice?!
...
What?


TA-DAA
Mas-
ter!
♡
Welcome
back,

TINKLE
TINKLE
♪


...
This way,
please!
すたすた
Step Step

福
T-ssss

Slice

What a pleasure to see you again, Kazane.
NIBBLE
What do you want, Chronoire Schwarz?
Why would a villain like you suddenly ask to see me in a place like this?
HMPH
You're a Tower Witch.
If they're both Workshop Witches.
It's Workshop custom for an outside witch to first greet the ruling witch of the land, is it not?
Ah, as cold as ever.
Why, this is our first reunion in 130 years!
But we are companions, as well. Survivors through the ages.
Indeed, we are enemies.
Ever since the crusades!

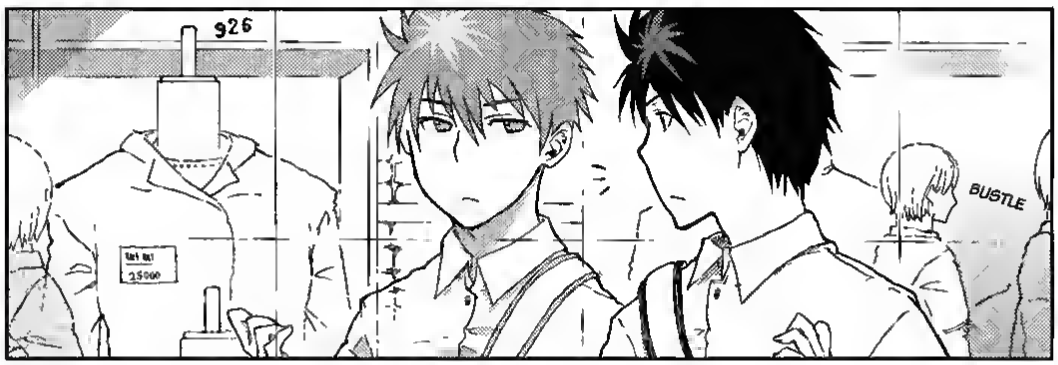
Talk reached me of Medusa's flunkies getting themselves in a scuffle with some of your underlings, you see.
Hah...
Late last night.
When did you arrive?

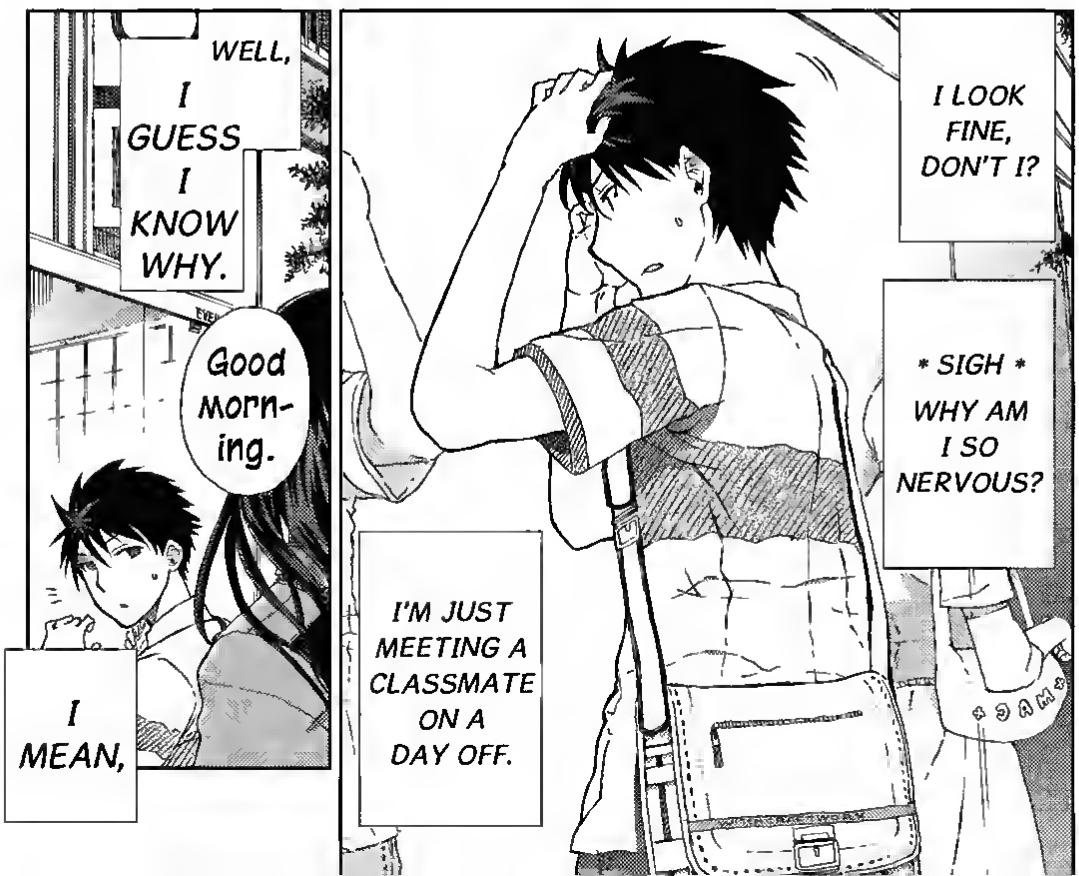
CHAPTER 3: *END*

Outtakes from pages 132-133

Witchcraft Works

9 AM
BUSTLE
BUSTLE
SUNDAY
48
45
6/3

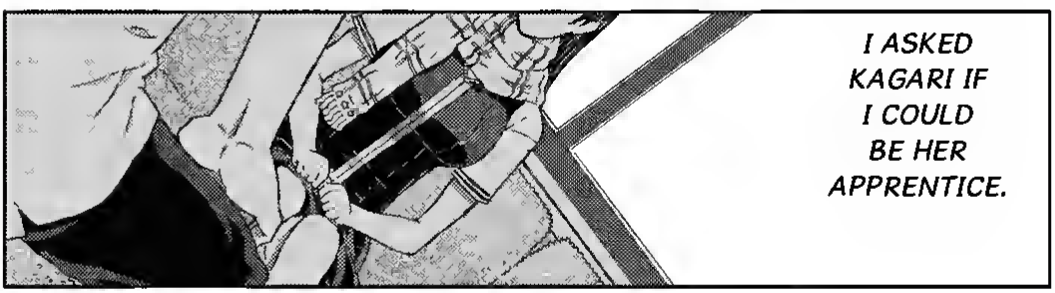

926
BUSTLE

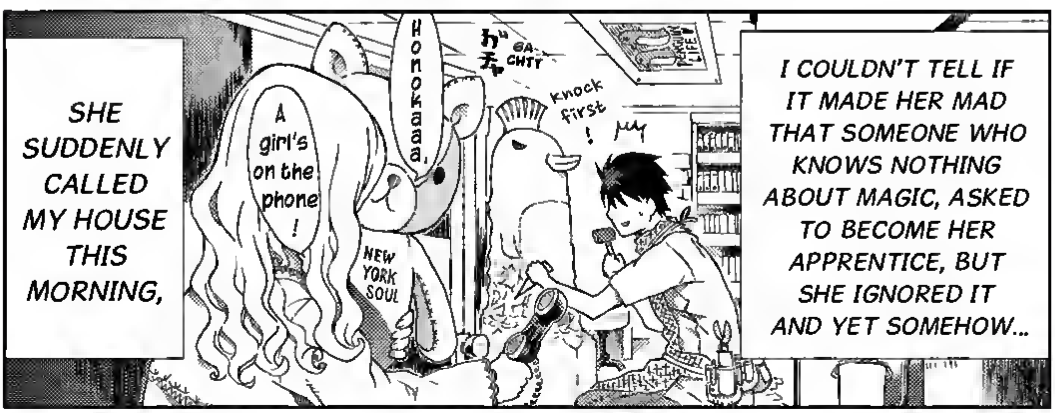

WELL, I GUESS I KNOW WHY.
Good morn-ing.
I MEAN,
I'M JUST MEETING A CLASSMATE ON A DAY OFF.
I LOOK FINE, DON'T I?
* SIGH * WHY AM I SO NERVOUS?

CHAPTER 4 Takamiya and the Witches' Intentions
Did you wait long?
BLOOM
BOUNCE
Oh, I just got here!
MY PLANS ARE WITH HER, THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN SCHOOL AND ALSO A WITCH.

I'VE EVER HUNG OUT WITH A GIRL ON A DAY OFF!
(Family not included.)
I came here from school.
Oh.
KRIK KRIK
In uniform today?
CALM DOWN. HONOKA... BUT, YOU KNOW... THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...

YESTERDAY.
BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED YESTER-DAY
OF COURSE, I'M MEET-ING HER TODAY ...


I ASKED KAGARI IF I COULD BE HER APPRENTICE.


SHE SUDDENLY CALLED MY HOUSE THIS MORNING,
A girl's on the phone!
Honokaaa,
GA-CHTT
Knock first!
NEW YORK SOUL
I COULDN'T TELL IF IT MADE HER MAD THAT SOMEONE WHO KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT MAGIC, ASKED TO BECOME HER APPRENTICE, BUT SHE IGNORED IT AND YET SOMEHOW...

AND NOW,
THIS IS HAPPENING.
...
So, Kagari,
Where are we going?

When we get there.
You'll find out

...
Mm...

Let's have a little talk.
TURN
It's a bit of a walk, anyway.

Huh?

There's something I want to tell you.
Tell me?
About ...
Witches.
SHIVER
Takamiya, when I fought the Tower Witches yesterday ...
HUSTLE BUSTLE
Uh, Uh-huh?
A short-cut?
Remember how those girls called me a WORKSHOP WITCH?
Oh, now that you mention it...
They were right. I'm a Witch who's part of the "WORKSHOP."
The Work-shop?

Witches in this world can be split into one of two major groups.
First, there are those who try to protect the world.
Those are WORKSHOP WITCHES.

We build workshops in towns where humans have gathered,
and oversee affairs there to make sure that magic is not misused.

Because we build workshops in fixed areas
and stay there watching over the people.
We are called Workshop Witches.
we're normally regular citizens.

TOWER WITCHES.
The other group...
uses magic for their own ends.
They don't care what happens to it, or even if people die.
Their intentions are unknown, but they're always plotting to bring chaos to the world.

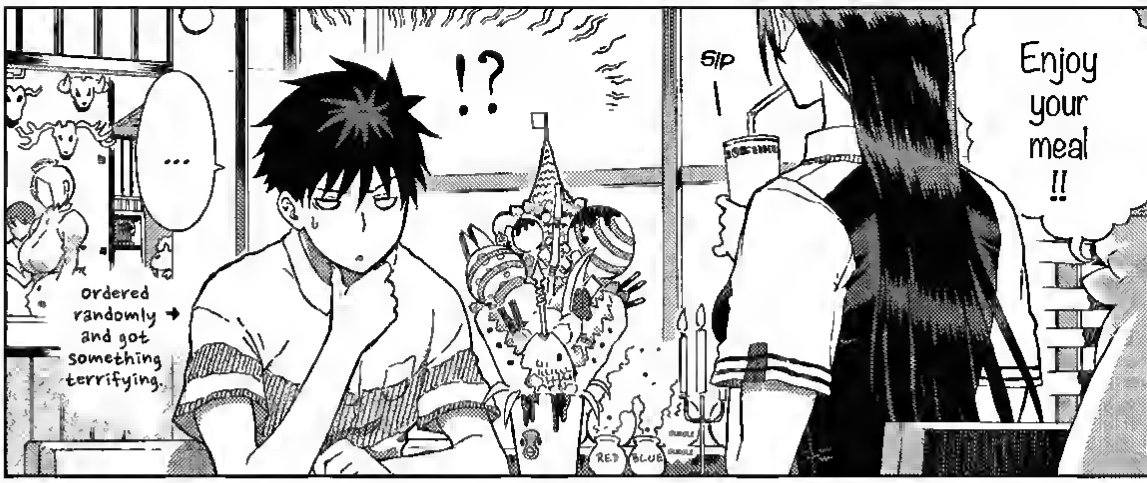
you were ever to fall into their hands...
If...

This world would be in grave danger.

What exactly... am I?
...
Kagari?
Ah

...
KAGA-RI...
YOU ALWAYS LOOK SO SERIOUS, I CAN NEVER TELL WHEN YOU'RE JOKING.
AAACK!
A-ALL THAT ?!
... Maybe.
?!
TWIRL
To be specific, mankind will be wiped out.
The Earth will explode.
Demon lords will walk the land.
Prawns will start boxing
Giraffes necks will grow longer
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
?!

THAT MUST BE WHY KAGARI IS PROTECTING ME.
IN ANY CASE,
I'M a little tired.
Let's take a break.
Come in!
K-KAGARI?!
DASH
TINKLE
Welcome!
...
Oh, Princess! The usual, right!?!
What will you be having ?!
THE MENU READS LIKE AN INCANTATION ...


...
!?
Ordered randomly → and got something terrifying.
SIP
Enjoy your meal !!
RED
BLUE

Oooohhh !!
JUMP

Did I order some-thing bad ?!
!!?
...
MUMBLE
A brave man...

you
should
わっ TRIP

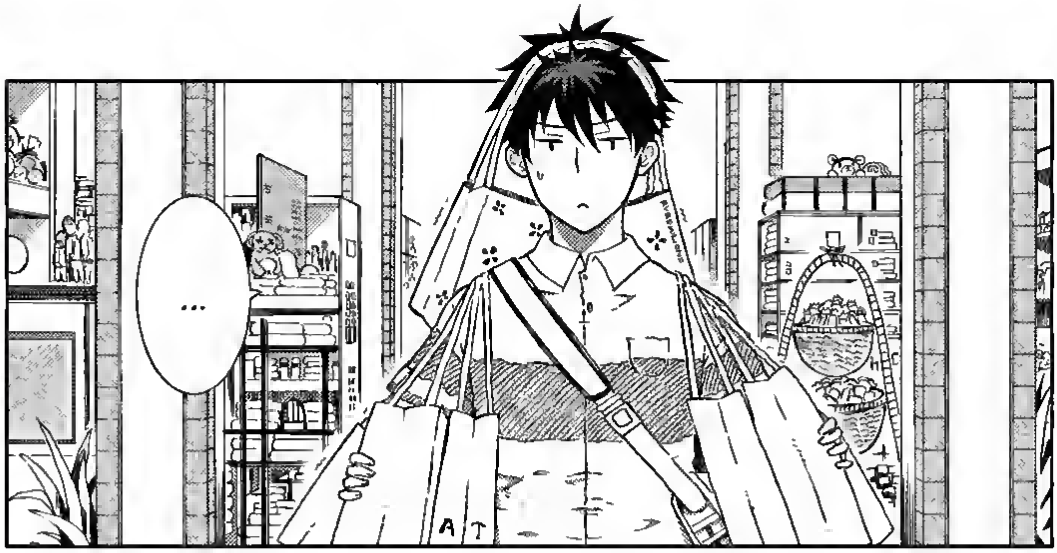
BOING
All the girls were talking about you!
There you are, Princess !!
If you're here,
SIP

AAH!!
Agh!
SST
SLAAM

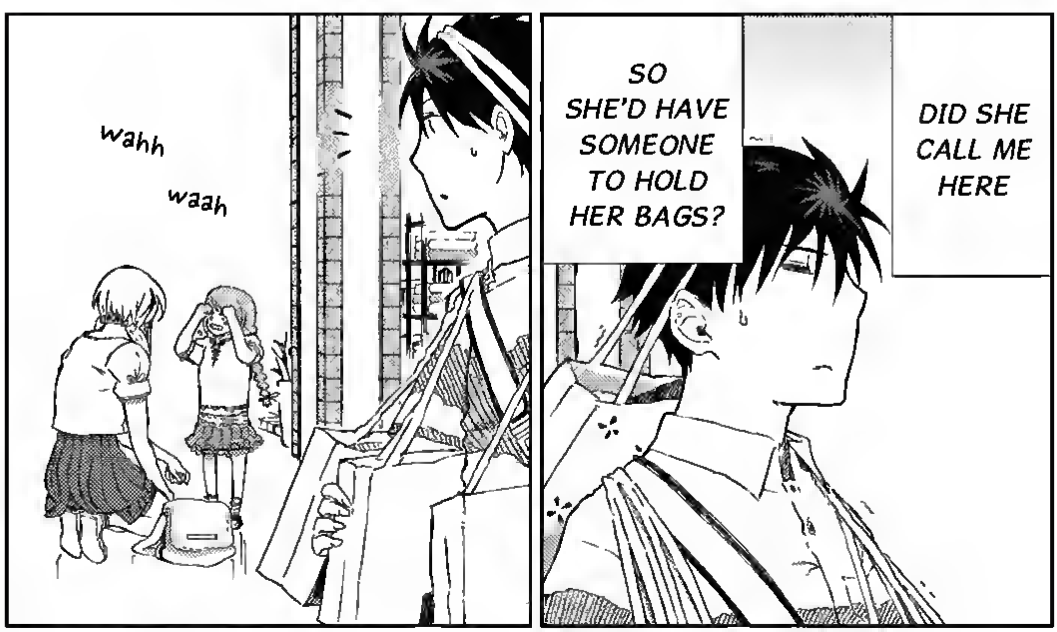
say hi to me!
OUCH
むくり
RISE
SHAKE SHAKE
SIP
Another weirdo!
PSSHT
Oooh!! Is that the "I don't want to see this heifer for a second longer" look you always give me!?!!
...
GRRRR
CHATTE NOIRE
But you're normally so cold!
I know! Are you here to watch me hard at work?!
CHOOT
Huh? It's frozen solid...
TINK TINK

Have you heard about Chronoire, Princess?
Oh.
That's right.
CRUNCH CRUNCH
HMPH
Well, that's fine with me!
Just getting a glimpse of you is enough for little old Touko!
More and more Tower Witches are gathering!
They're saying that infamous witch is in this town!
What's going on around here?!
And the Star and Cherry Blossom Squads just arrived, too!
Takamiya.
Take care of the Princess,
WHISPER
I'll get out of your way!
BAM
Eeeek! That look!
The one you gave me when you thrust your fist into my mouth because you saw it in a movie!
...
CHATTEMOIRE
BUH-BYYYE!
TWIRL
Why does she know my name?

Hey, that was girl...
Mmh...
...I don't know her.
WHAAT !?!
SST
EVARMILION
I'M kidding.
BOOM
Actually, she's someone you don't need to know.
?!
That's even worse...
We should get going.
CLANK
HUH?
UH- Okay.
I didn't get a chance to eat it because it froze...

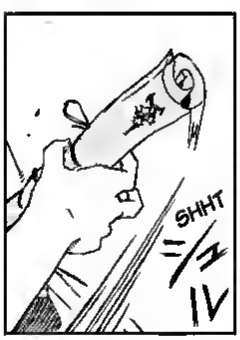

...

I THINK YOU'D CALL THIS SHOPPING...
NOR-MALLY,


wahh
waah
SO SHE'D HAVE SOMEONE TO HOLD HER BAGS?
DID SHE CALL ME HERE

IS ANYONE LOOKING FOR THEIR LOST DAUGHTER?!
EXCUSE ME!
Your big sister will help you find your mommy.
Are you lost? There, there Don't cry What's your name?
PAT PAT
HUSTLE BUSTLE
...
HUSTLE BUSTLE
STAARE
JERK
How charming. If that were Kagari...
...

...
HM?
?
Woah!


SHHT

BAM
Shuffl

STAARE
...
?
Can I...

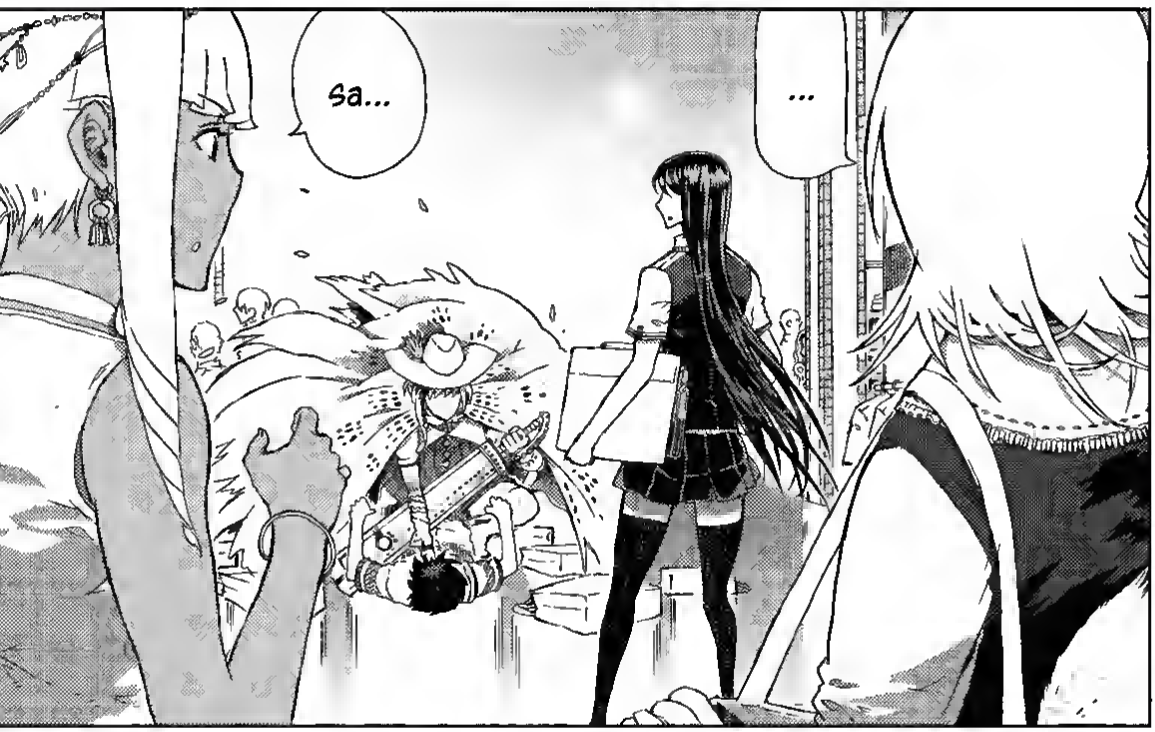
WANTED
Probably Fire
DANGER
!
?
カシュッ

M...
Miss?
but I already hit the jackpot.
GOOD JOB ME!
Wow. I just got here,
?!
SLAP
ぽん
EEK!
Scram, kid.
Oh, Ka-gar-
Takamiya !!
STEP
Next-
Thanks for waiting ...

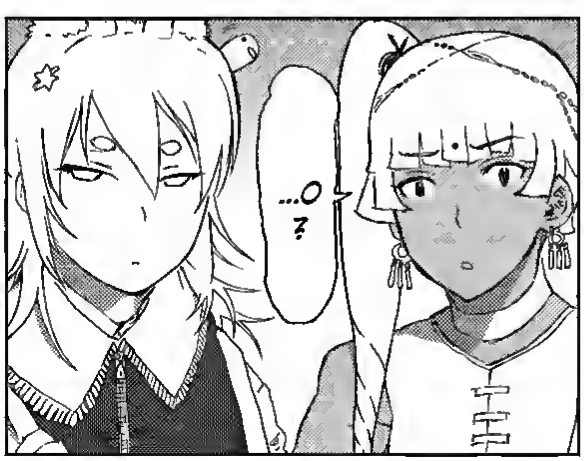
A ha ha!
ACH!
BOOM

Today's my lucky day!
SSHHRRR

Sorry we kept ya!
Once we started picking stuff out —
CREEP CREEP
Zzz Zzz
ZIP
PITTER-PITTER

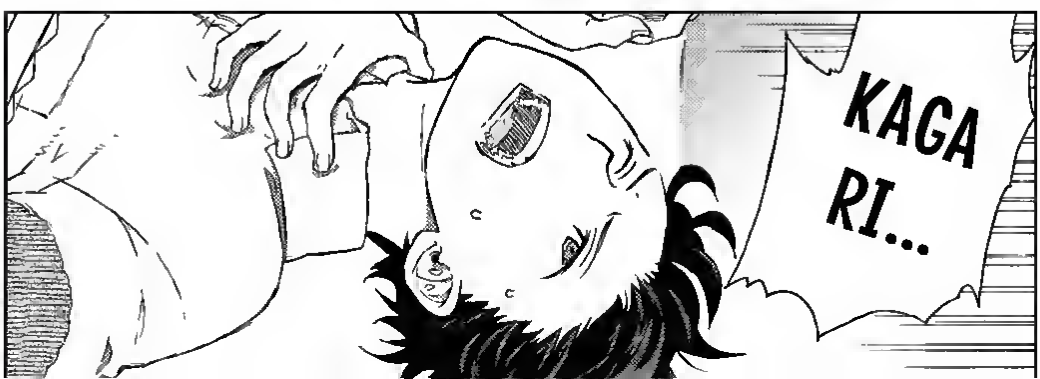

Sa...
...

She's a Work-shop Witch!
Stay on your toes!


...O?

YEP!
Mii !!
?!

SWOOOOOSH


KAGA RI...

Just stay down.
KRAKL
RISE
Mmh
!
KATT
BWOOOSH
?!

GULP
!
!
KOFF
KOFF
Where'd she go?!
Wha...
GWOOM
Ugh...
!!
Miss?
?
That girl!
Ah!
DASH
SLIIDE
KYA
THUD

Eeek!
FLUTTER
STAMP!
SHINK
SNAP

BAM
RA
TATA
TATAT

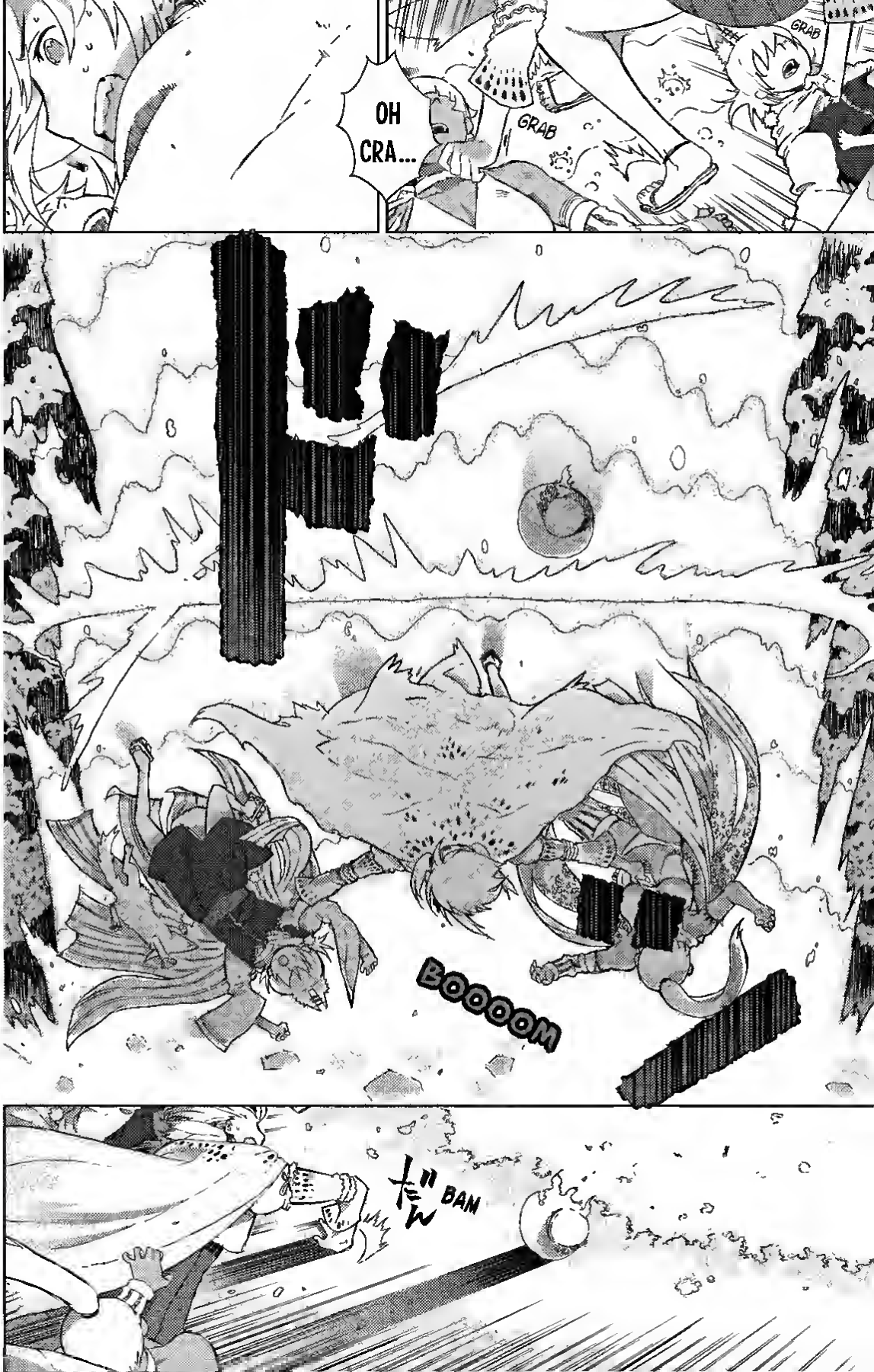
RA
TA
TAT
BSST
BSST
EEP

CLIK CLIK

That sounds like...
Don't worry. It's almost over.
SCREE

WOOM
Grr
WOOM
WOOM
BAM
Hot!
Wh...
SNAPT
JSS
HH

POINT
Bang.
SPRINKLE
SPRINKLE
SST
AH!


OH CRA...
GRAB
GRAB
BOOOOM
BAM

RO
OO
AR
ZAKK

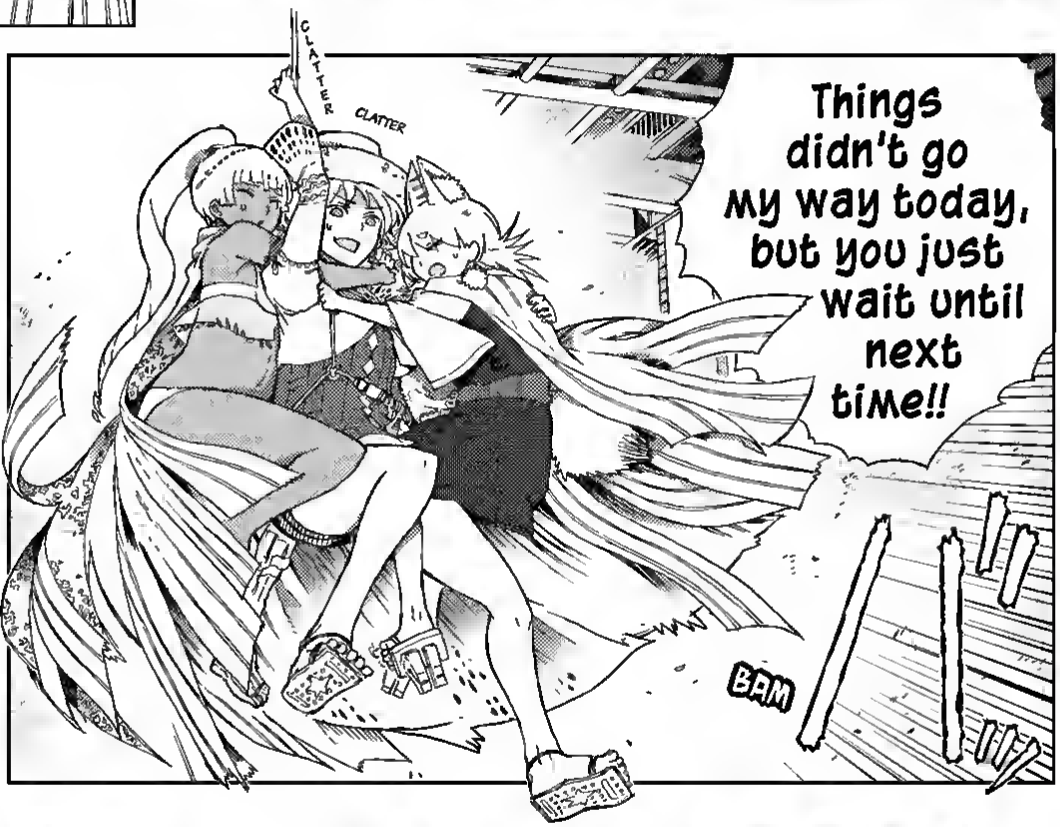
...Ah
RISE
ugh
KATT
GURGLE

FLUTTER
FLUTTER
I CAN STILL—
WHAAT?
LADIES, WE'RE RETREAT-ING,
DON'T BE STUPID! SHE KNOCKED YOU OUT IN ONE SHOT!

That's all for today.

All right, you.
CHAKK

You're targets no matter where you go.
but you two need to be careful from now on.
CHAKKT
SWOOSH
BOOM!


Things didn't go my way today, but you just wait until next time!!
CLATTER
CLATTER
BAM

MOMMY!

AHA
HAHA
...
PYOO
Witches tend to be weird, don't they.
...

STROLL

...
STROLL

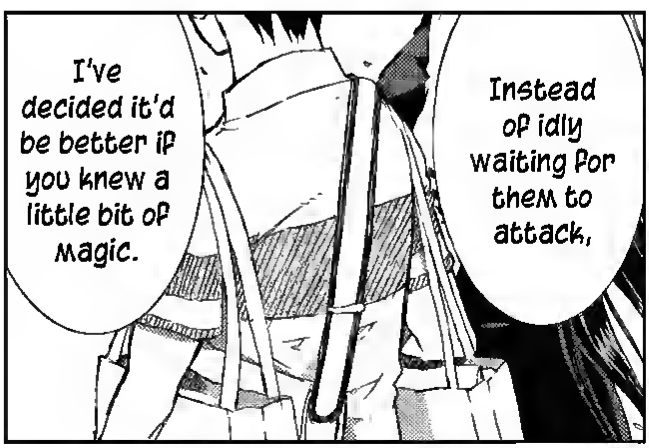
STROLL
STROLL

I'm sorry about earlier.
I got myself captured again...
Um...
Kagari?

Maybe you're...
a little too defenseless, Takamiya.
...
Yes.

do you think you'll make a good apprentice?
So,
Ack...
BOOM
ズーン

Our enemies keep growing.
DOES THAT MEAN—


I've decided it'd be better if you knew a little bit of magic.
Instead of idly waiting for them to attack,

I hope I can find them soon,
but this may turn into a long battle.
I said it yesterday, too.
This won't end until I defeat the mastermind behind this.

Kagari...
...Mmh.

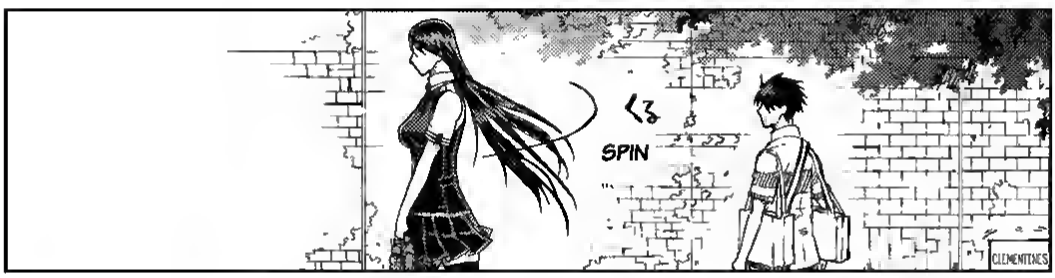
Well... if I can't fall into the hands of those Tower girls,
wouldn't you normally try to hide me somewhere, or better yet, shut me in?
We never would have been attacked today if I didn't leave the house.
?
Why don't you...
ever do anything about me?
Can I ask a question?

Stop worry-ing so much.
RUSTLE
わしゃわしゃ
RUSTLE
... Um
SMAK
ぺちっ
Ouch ...
...
?
HUH ?!
TURN
Did you review for tomorrow's English quiz?
They're not that hard if you review...
You're always having trouble on those tests.
HMM
I was always planning to ask you.
or do you still have that much trouble even after studying?

My job is to protect that kind of world.
In either case, if you're going to worry, worry about things like that.

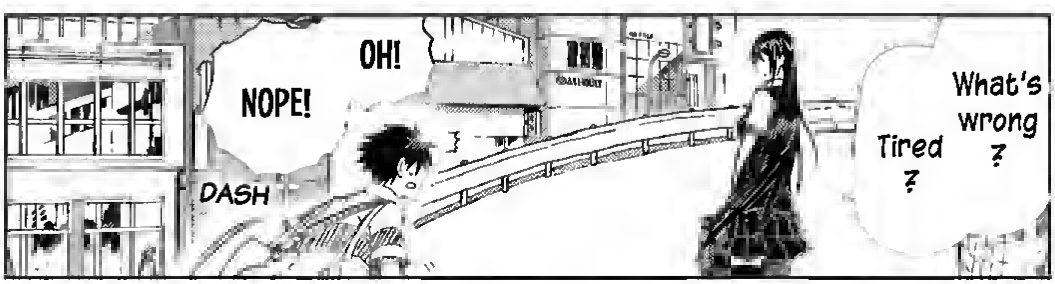
In either case,
if you're going to worry, worry about things like that.

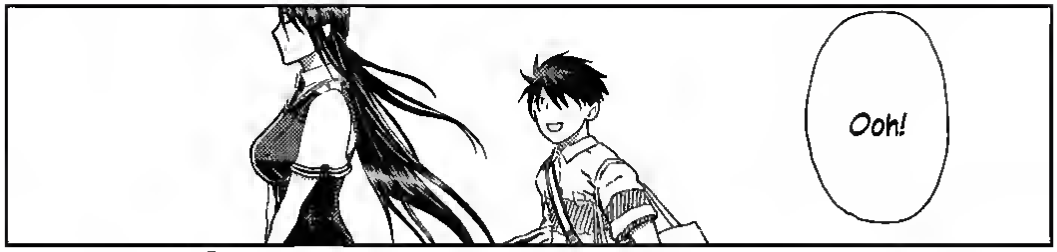
My job
is to protect that kind of world.

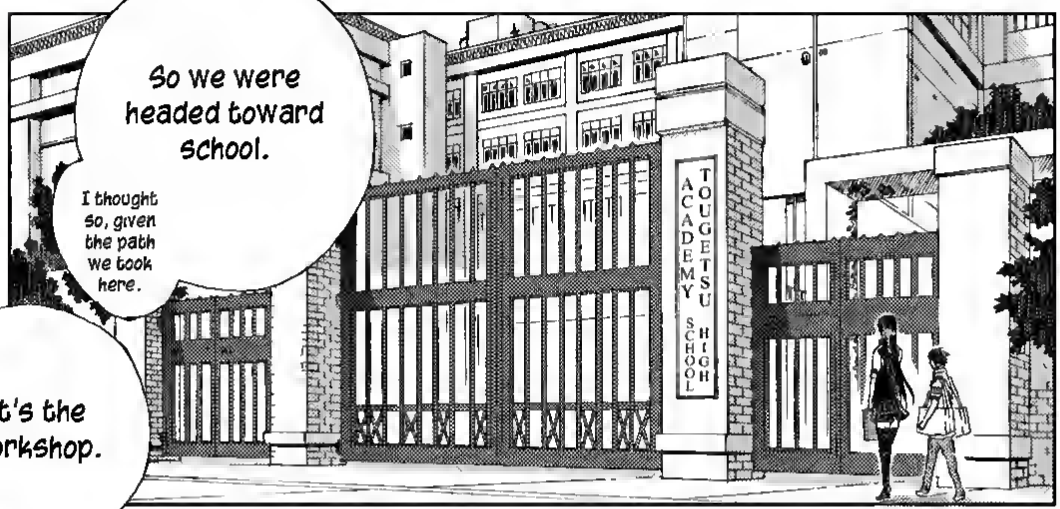

SPIN
CLEMENTINES

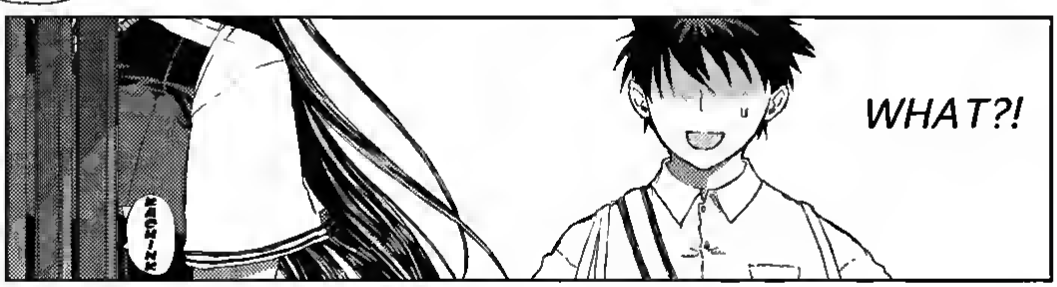
NOTHING'S GOING TO COME OF JUST WORRYING...
I GUESS SO.

KAGARI...
...


OH!
NOPE!
DASH
Tired?
What's wrong?


Ooh!


So we were headed toward school.
I thought so, given the path we took here.
It's the Workshop.
TOUGETSU HIGH SCHOOL


WHAT?!
RACHING

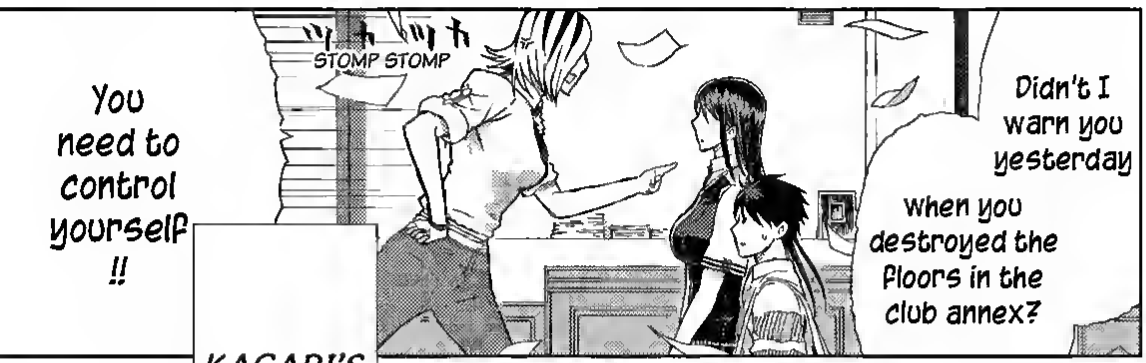
You're finally here.
So...
GKKT

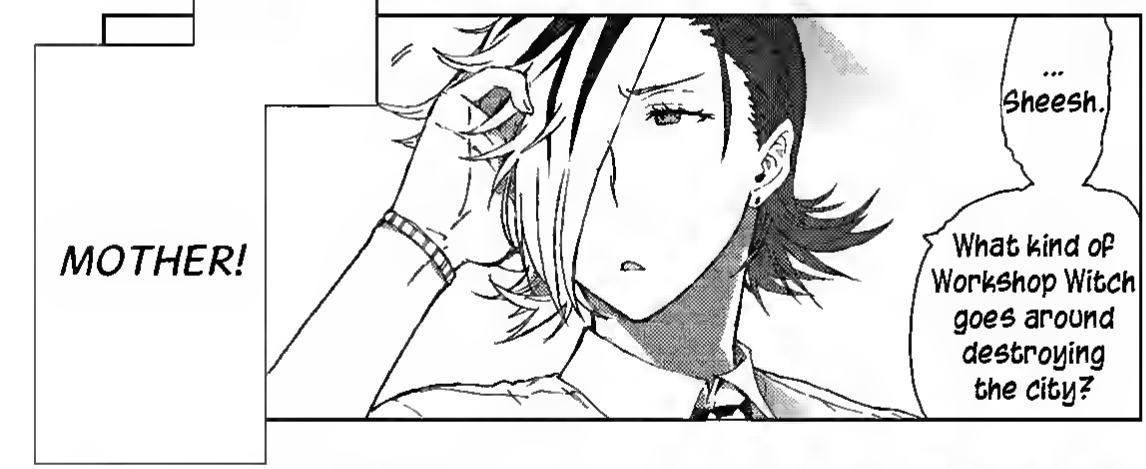
Wait...
KNOCK KNOCK
Come in.
Chairman's Office

but didn't manage to get here until after tea time,
Could you explain how you left to get him in the morning,
PUFF
IRRITATED
イライラ
Ayaka ?!
BOOM

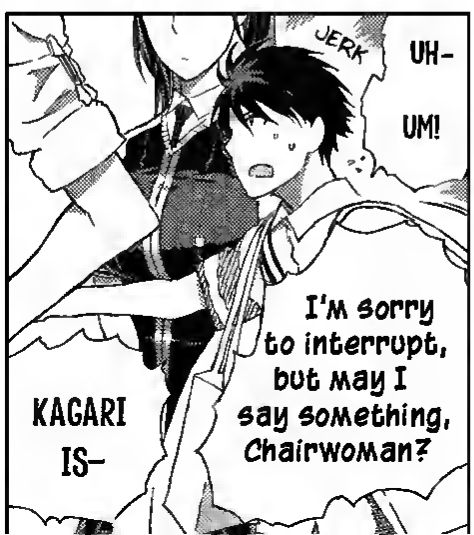
CHAIR-WOMAN !!?

KAZANE KAGARI
SHHT
BAM
FLUTTER
"Your wild horse drew a mystery circle on our floor with fire, and you owe us damages," they said.
It was a complaint from the shopping arcade.
I just got a call.
THIS IS THE CHAIR-WOMAN.


You need to control yourself !!
KAGARI'S
STOMP STOMP
Didn't I warn you yesterday when you destroyed the floors in the club annex?


MOTHER!
... Sheesh.
What kind of Workshop Witch goes around destroying the city?

Ahh, what do we have here?
This must be the first time we've spoken face-to-face, Honoka Takamiya.


KAGARI IS–
JERK
UH– UM!
I'm sorry to interrupt, but may I say something, Chairwoman?

I'm happy to accept you, Honoka.
That a Witch's superior has to meet all apprentice candidates.
That's why I summoned you here today. It's workshop custom...
Putting the complaints aside, I've heard about you becoming her apprentice.
to the Workshop!
Welcome
zzz...
AND CHRONOIRE...
I'd fancy some page time next book...
chasing evil and eating soba, too!♪
change that to udon! ♪♪
Good boy!
MEANWHILE, THE FURRY-EARS...
SO THIS IS WHY WE WENT SHOPPING ON SUNDAY.
OH—
SNAP SNAP
SNAP SNAP
Wear this.
LATER.
?

Afterword

Ever since I started drawing Witchcraft Works, people started to ask me,
"You must like big women, don't you?"
I'm not particularly drawing this manga with that kind of thing in mind,
but I won't deny that I do, either.
It'd be neat if I could turn this into a manga where Kagari grows five stories
tall and fights while Takamiya stands on her shoulders…
……That's a joke.

Ryu Mizunagi

Assistants
Shinobu
Takumi
Ricchan

Witchcraft Works

WITCHCRAFT WORKS IN ONE PAGE

SHE MEANS IT MORE LITERALLY.

Witchcraft Works

SETTING + SECRETS

This page is a collection of behind-the-scenes character and story elements that probably won't affect or appear in the main story, as well as comments by the author. If you finish reading the story and think, "I want to know more!" then we hope you enjoy the information here.

Chapter 1: Takamiya and the Fire Witch

• Honoka Takamiya
Why is his first name Honoka (a girly-sounding name)?
A long time ago, I submitted a story to Kodansha's Four Seasons Award that received an Honorable Mention. It, too, was titled "Witchcraft Works," and both Takamiya and Kagari appeared in it, but Takamiya didn't have a first name.
Later, I drew thumbnails for a story about young witches, and its female protagonist was named Honoka. When I was approached to do something in *good! Afternoon* magazine, I decided to combine both of these stories and make Takamiya a girl. Thus, Honoka Takamiya was born, and the story would be a yuri manga starring Honoka and Kagari.
We ultimately ended up switching Honoka back to being male. The name stuck, though.

• Ayaka Kagari
In the Four Seasons Award version of Witchcraft Works, she was just named Ayaka, with no last name, and it stuck. When I was about to draw the final thumbnails for this story, my editor told me that she had to have a last name, I went with a play on the Japanese character for "Bonfire."

★ Until nearly the final draft, the story was going to open with the scene of a family gathering. It was taken out, though, and you can see some remnants of that next to Honoka in the color page where he's going to school.

★ There are different levels to Kagari's flames. The easiest way to tell, to choose one example, is the sign indicating level 3.

From level 4 and up, Kagari herself begins to burn.

Chapter 2: Takamiya and the Furry-eared Witches

• Tanpopo Kuraishi
Initially, I had decided that she would be named Tanpopo Crisis, but it's not like she's a foreigner, so I changed her last name to Kuraishi.
Class Mammalia, family Oculus et Auris Felidae.
A popular species of existing furry-ear; their lifestyles are essentially the same as a human's. However, they do go into heat, which can be a bit tough for them.

★ The Furry-ears are constantly watching Takamiya for an opening to attack.
★ There was a scene where she explains how illusion magic works, but it was removed because it took several pages. Instead, I just explained it as, "well, it's illusory magic."

The illusion magic here activates the moment the target (Takamiya, in this case) sees the letters on the stuffed animal. If he even has the slightest doubt that "maybe a school building will fall out of the sky toward me," that doubt swells in his mind until it becomes a realistic illusion.
Here, part of the school building that falls from the sky has to be something believable by the target. If it created some sort of contradiction, then it would disappear, or the magic wouldn't work in the first place. (For example, if there was no school building in the area, or if Takamiya was already inside the building.)

Some individuals have a latent resistance to illusory magic, while many others who have learned the basics of magic are immune to it. Therefore, this plan was carried out in order to see how dangerous Takamiya is. As the illusion in the scene where the school building is falling on Takamiya has been cast on him, Kagari can't see it.

★ From Chapter 2 on, names of major finishing spells (such as "Million Clover" in Chapter 1) disappeared because of a conversation I had where we decided, "If we do it, we should either put the characters in a big font on each corner of the panel or not do it at all." The magic used in Chapter 2 is "Vermillion Clover".

Chapter 3: Takamiya and the Ivory Quintet

★ That girl again when Honoka goes to school.

• You can see here that Tanpopo's rabbits are made from paper. She's an animator who controls the "Order of the White Rabbits."
• Twintails
She carries around a huge spellbook filled with monsters, the "Black Vise." When my editor saw her striped panties, the only reaction was, "I didn't want or need to see that."
• Eyepatch
The black slime she controls can bend space, connecting and separating locations. She doesn't teleport, though, so she's not really a fast mover. The thing on her shoulders is a baby Coast Fenrir, a kind of wolf. Because it's a baby, it can't walk on its own.
When an angel falls, they lose their white wings and grow black ones. Three kinds of mythical beasts are born from those lost white wings, and the Coast Fenrir is the third of those. They are called "embodiments of the goodness of angels." However, they have an unfortunate fate. Because they are also proof that a fallen angel has been born, they are killed as symbols of bad luck.
• Flat girl
She carries a reaper's scythe, wears a skull necklace, and is followed by moving dinosaur bones. She is a "Bonemancer," a subtype of necromancer who specializes in bones.
• Forehead
An athletic witch who uses an enchanted Kotetsu sword.

★ The scene where Kagari talks about "setting that perm on fire" connects to chapter 1, and lets you catch a glimpse of Kagari's girlishness.

• Chronoire Schwarz VI
A Tower Witch followed around by a suited crocodile. As she indicates when she says she's known Kazane since the Crusades, one can infer that they're both over 700 years old. The author of this manga loves neckties, so, like most characters, she wears one.

Chapter 4: Takamiya and the Witches' Intentions

★ Workshop Witches
More properly known as the Witches of the Ultima Shuria Workshop.
They are headquartered in Ultima Shuri, the "End of the World."
They wear black costumes because they once were mainly active at night.
When people talk about "witches" in general, they're talking about Workshop Witches. As Kagari begins to burn, her clothes go from black to white.

★ Tower Witches
More properly known as the Witches of the Ivory Tower.
Tower Witches wear white clothing in order to symbolize the color of ivory.

• Little Sister
Her older brother leaves the house after getting a call from a girl, so she decides to track him. Carries around a stuffed teddy bear named MacaRon.

• Touko
An ice-using Workshop Witch.

• Lost girl
I had decided to name her Pi○achu, but that was cut because it would probably cause too much trouble.

• Star Squad
A three-witch team from the Tower. They probably won't show up again.

★ Kazane Kagari
The chairwoman of Tougetsu Academy. Also the head of the Tougetsu city Workshop and Kagari's mom.

• Furry-ears at Karaoke
I used parody lyrics here so I wouldn't fall afoul of Japan's music copyright service JASRAC!

Witchcract Works, volume 1

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